ART GILLHAM WAITING FOR SHIPS THAT NEVER COME IN

BIO-DISCOGRAPHY OF



By George Blau

ACKNOWEDGEMENTS

Information has been collected from many sources.

First and foremost is Art Gillham himself. A family friend, he entertained me and his friends with his playing in our home and in his home. He endured a pesky kid who was always asking him to just play piano and not sing. Through conversations and though his generosity in loaning me his scrapbook full of newspaper and magazine articles, photographs, advertising, and sheet music, and in permitting me to photograph everything in his scrapbook and to tape record him just playing piano. The lack of more detailed information from Art was due to my age and lack of interest at the time of the details of his career and lack of knowledge to ask the questions I would ask today.

Ab Luther, who bought a 78 rpm home recorder and made many acetate disks of Art in the 1940s and 1950s and made tapes for me of all the home recordings he had.

Joe Renfroe, who made several tape recordings of Art in the 1950s and made copies for me.

Jeff Tarrer, who made the only known recorded interview with Art and made a copy for me.

Russ Conner, and Woody Backensto in suggesting the personnel on Art's recordings.

Mike Montgomery for finding Art's piano rolls and sheet music by Art or with Art's picture on the cover.

Wendell Hall for writing his recollections of his association with Art in Chicago, on the road, on radio and songwriting. They met in Chicago when they were both song pluggers for sheet music publishers, sometimes travelled the same routes and appeared on the same radio stations, and appeared together several times on radio as their careers expanded and wrote a song together.

W. C. Handy who corresponded with me concerning Hesitation Blues.

Ted Browne who answered a few questions about Art and his work for Ted Browne Music.

Art's grandsons Stephen and Phil Gillham, and their cousin Herb Gillham, who shared information on Art's first wife and his family history.

Brian Rust for permitting me to use his discographical information on dates, matrix numbers and released and unreleased recordings.

Tim Gracyk who compiled pages from the *Talking Machine World* which gave release dates and other information.

Richard Zimmerman who identified Art's style of playing as influenced by St. Louis ragtime.

Ian Whitcomb and Dick Carty who identified Art's vocalizations as one of the first crooners and who used my information in the book *The First Crooners*.

David Cowart whose research and questions on Hesitation Blues and interest in the song writing career of Art and Billy Smythe stimulated more thought and research to the Smythe-Gillham song writing association.

David Garrick who alerted me to recording on Okeh in 1928 that was a previously unknown Art Gillham as an anonymous vocal on a Sam Lanin orchestra recording using the name "Billy Hayes Orchestra".

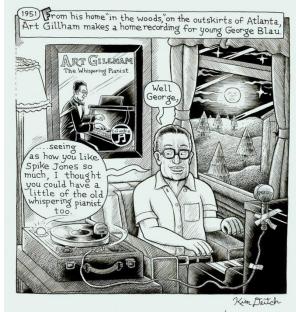
Newspapers.com and other online newspaper archives provided ability to find other information not included in Art's scrapbook. Used are articles. Also included in the archives are radio daily listings, too numerous to use more than sample listings. Not all papers are included, especially papers from the major cities. No claim is made that the scrapbook is complete. Individual broadcasts are much too numerous to list each days'. Only a sample of broadcasts are shown, primarily to show Art's movements. Art visited radio stations, record stores, music stores and other local businesses in the cities he visited.

Art's scrapbook is used. Usually he has handwritten notes to articles in his scrapbook. Added to his scrapbook are articles found on the internet through newspaper archives and archives of the Talking Machine World.

All recordings, except one Australian recording, are preserved for free download at the Internet Archive (archive.org). On opening page do a search for "art gillham". Using quotation marks keeps you from getting results for items with either art or gillham. At this writing there are 321 results for "art gillham". The recordings include commercially issued recordings, transcriptions, and priviate recordings made for friends after his recording career was over (1940s-1961). A few selections are available on youtube (youtube.com) using the same type of search.

Artist Kim Deitch listened to Art's recordings and made a drawing for me based on a recording

Art made for my 15th birthday:



INTRODUCTION

I first met Art Gillham when I was a child in Atlanta in the mid-1940's. He was a friend of my parents and we were together frequently on weekends. My mother had been a fan of Art's when she was in high school in the 1920's. My father and Art were both members of the Buckhead Elks Club in Atlanta, and I presume that is where they met.

At the time, Art lived in an apartment in Atlanta's Peachtree Hills. He owned several acres of land on Burdett Rd, a dirt road off Lake Forrest. His property was way out in the 1950's, but in 2017 in the Sandy Springs area inside I-285, which is now considered "close-in" Atlanta. For a while it was 3 acres of woods on a hill with a shooting range and an outhouse. My father was an architect and built "the smallest house" in the woods, which Art called Wee-Haven. Whether at his home or ours, whenever we were together, Art was sure to play the piano.

When I became a teenager, I learned that Art had made records for Columbia in the 1920's. He made some home acetate records for me and for my parents. Later let me tape record him playing. He showed me his scrapbook and allowed me to borrow it to make photos of the pages, gave me his radio manuscript for *Angry*. He did not have any of his records, so my hobby of collecting records began in trying to find his old Columbia records. His recordings had been popular enough that it did not take long to find all of his American released Columbia's, his one Bluebird, and a few on other labels. In the 1950's, most of these were readily found at Salvation Army stores or Goodwill stores. Most were in poor condition from frequent playing on the old phonographs with heavy stylus arms that dug into the grooves. As better copies were found, the worn out records were discarded. Some better condition records were acquired from 78rpm collector stores in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles.

Art was a frequent guest on WAGA-TV's Saturday night Arthur Murray Dance Party, and always took me along. Being in the early 1950's, this was pioneer television in Atlanta. Being before videotape, the program was broadcast live. Through his scrapbook I learned he had been involved in the first demonstration of television in Atlanta in 1939.

When he had his final radio series on Atlanta's WQXI on Sunday afternoons, I was in the studio with him. In 1953 I was doing a series of feature articles for my high school newspaper when Gene Austin came to play the Paradise Room at the Henry Grady Hotel. I contacted Gene and he invited me to lunch. Also with us at lunch was a local performer, one the Merry Mutes, a pantomime team, Dick Van Dyke. Gene invited me for a second more private lunch and told me of his career and the music of the 1920's. Gene was very gracious to a teenager who knew very little about him except that he recorded for Victor at the time Art recorded for Columbia. After talking with Gene, I got the idea that it would be great to have Art and Gene together to talk about their careers in the 1920's. I approached Art with the idea and he was receptive, so I talked to Gene and he was also receptive. As a result, Gene appeared on Art's Sunday afternoon program. Art let Gene do most of the singing and playing and they talked about their relationship and careers with Victor and

Columbia. Both men were pianists who sang. Gene had the better voice. Art was better on piano. Gene sang songs straight. Art created a character who was old, fat, baldheaded, needing a cup of coffee, who was always down on his luck with women and talked to his fingers about "the customers" as he sang.

Wendell Hall, "The Red Headed Music Maker" was also generous in giving information on Art and his own career.

Art had some friends who had home recording equipment. Before tape recording there were home disk recorders that recorded on acetate disks. Art made many records for his friends on those acetate disks. When tape recorders came out his friends upgraded to tape and he recorded hours of songs, memories, and risqué material. I borrowed a tape recorder and asked him to play without singing and he complied playing for about an hour of his songs and other familiar songs of the twenties with his theme song *Whispering* played as a bridge between songs. He accommodated me in other ways, such as playing for my high school friends campaign party for senior class officers. As I look back, I am surprised that he did not take offense at my wanting him to play piano and not sing. On one homemade record for Billy Bell Art says "I can't sing because George is here."

In the 1950's, Art had several heart attacks which affected his left arm and he was not able to play piano as much as he would have liked. On June 6, 1961 Art awoke, and as he was getting out of bed he suffered a fatal heart attack. He was buried on a hill at Arlington Cemetery in Sandy Springs. His wife, Gertrude, continued living at Wee-Haven until about 1980 when she went to North Carolina and lived with Art's son Hal. When Gertrude died, she was cremated and her ashes buried next to Art at Arlington Cemetery.

After Art died I began contacting his friends who had made those home recordings. I was able to get tape copies of all the surviving home recordings. In 1957, Jim Walsh wrote an article on Art and his recordings for his long running series "Favorite Pioneer Recording Artists" which appeared in the September issue of Hobbies Magazine. It was the first time I knew of the extent of his recording career. Shortly after the Hobbies Magazine article, Russ Connor's first biodiscography of Benny Goodman was published showing that the young Benny Goodman was part of the personnel on the July 24, 1930 session that produced Confessin'. Woody Backensto, an authority on Red Nichols, contacted Art about his recordings with Red Nichols. He wrote an article which expanded on Jim Walsh's article by giving recording dates, matrix numbers and suggestions as to personnel on Art's recordings. The article was published after Art's death in Record Research 49 in March, 1963. He had Red Nichols and others listen to the records to confirm their presence. Later discography books by Brian Rust gave additional information on Art's recordings: Jazz Records 1897-1942; The Complete Entertainment Discography From 1897 to 1942; The Columbia Master Book Discography, Volume III, Principal U.S. Master Series 1924-1934. Also, Complete Encyclopedia of Popular Music by Roger D. Kinkle contains an article on Art. In my search for Art's player piano rolls, Michael Montgomery was very helpful, as he was in finding sheet music either written by Art or with Art's picture featured. All of these sources were used in addition to my collection of Art's recordings, piano rolls, sheet music, conversations with Art, and material he allowed me to photograph and copy from his scrapbook, in compiling this bio-discography.

The records I collected were transferred to reel-to-reel tape at 7.5 inches per second. Later when VCR's came out with Hi Fi recording, the reel-to-reel tapes were transferred to VCR tapes. Then

when computers allowed home recording of compact disks, the tapes were transferred to the computer as .WAV files, processed to remove the tape hiss and recorded on compact disks. The commercial recordings for Pathe, Columbia, Bluebird and the Allied transcriptions take up 6 CDs. The home recordings, audition records and interview take up another 8 CDs. All of the recordings were also converted to mp3 files and were posted on the Internet news group alt. binaries.sounds.78rpm-era, and are posted on the Internet Archive: archive.org. Some are also posted on youtube.com. I have posted many items from Art's scrapbook on facebook.com. As the Internet grew there appeared newspaper archive sites which could be searched for articles and ads.

While many consider Art a singer, performer, entertainer, Art considered himself a salesman. He sold songs as a song plugger and as a radio and recording artist. When he visited cities and towns on theatre tours, he sold ice cream, cars, furniture, in depression radio he sold dry cleaning, ice cream, whatever he put his saless talent to, he sold.

Art was inducted into the St Louis Media hall of fame. I was pleased to accept his induction into the Georgia Radio Hall of Fame on October 21, 2017.



Readers are encouraged to submit new information and corrections to me at george.blau@gmail.com

As new information is found this pdf file will be updated.

WAITING FOR SHIPS THAT NEVER COME IN THE CAREER OF ART GILLHAM THE WHISPERING PIANIST

Hard Luck Image

To the confidential tones of Whispering is added a melancholy voice, "Tantalize the ivories fingers, while Papa goes out to get himself a cup of coffee." During the 1920's and 1930's radio and record listeners would recognize this as a trademark of Art Gillham, The Whispering Pianist. Singing and talking in a whispering style, the sob song was his forte. On radio and records he would moan about his bad luck, how his girl had left him, or how he was "waiting for ships that never come in." one of his most popular records. In one sense his career image paralleled his real experiences. His ship never did come in, though it seemed to be in sight on the horizon. He was a popular artist of his day, but did not gain the remembrance of his contempories Gene Austin, Ruth Etting, Cliff Edwards or Nick Lucas, or even of Jack Smith who Victor dubbed the "Whispering Baritone" after Art was established as the Whispering Pianist. His tunes were catchy, but did not linger to be remembered, except Hesitation Blues which contemporary publications omit his name. He was a pioneer radio artists appearing personally on over 300 stations prior to networks, was on the Nov 4, 1924 Eveready Hour election night broadcast with Will Rogers on an 18 station first commercial "hook up", was on CBS during the Depression with his Syncopated Pessimism and Breakfast With Art, yet his name is not found in books on the history of early radio. He recorded as an Exclusive Artist for Columbia Records from 1924-1931 and made the first released masters using the new Western Electric electrical recording system, but appears forgotten when Sony, now owners of what was Columbia Records, produced an extensive set of historical recordings the first electrical recordings were not included.

He created a character image on radio and on records. He described himself as an old man, balding and fat enough to tip the scales at 376 pounds. He was a tall, slim young man with ample curly black hair who weighed 175. He would talk to himself on radio and records, especially to his fingers - "Come on fingers, play it pretty for the people...easy fingers, just a little bounce." He would end his radio programs with a mention of coffee - "Well, Papa is going to go out and get a cup of coffee now. Do you have a cup of coffee in your pocket?" a phrase so well known that an envelope addressed simply "Have you Got a Cup of Coffee in Your Pocket, New York, New York" was delivered to him at CBS.

Beginnings in St. Louis

Art Gillham was born on January 1, 1895. Art said his family had moved to Atlanta from Texas earlier, where his father was said to have been a Texas Ranger. The Atlanta City Directory for 1890 shows a George Gillham, carpenter, residing at 916 Lynch St. Art believed he was born in Atlanta, but late in his life, when he applied for Social Security, he discovered he was born in St. Louis. In fact he sometimes claimed St Louis as his birthplace and sometimes claimed Atlanta as his birthplace. Art said he and his parents, Ada and George Gillham, spent his first nine years in Atlanta, where he began music lessons, taught by his mother, before his family moved to St. Louis in 1904. However, the St Louis City

Directory for 1895 shows the family residing in St. Louis and school records in St. Louis show he attended Henry Taylor Blow Elementary School from 1901 to 1906, then Wyman Elementary School and entered Central High School in 1910. The school records for Wyman and Central no longer exist. The records from Henry Taylor Blow Elementary School show his address in 1902 as 6620 S. 8th St and his father is shown as "coach builder" (1903-1905 show him as a carpenter and 1906 as coach carpenter, probably meaning a carpenter who worked on repairing the city's trolleys). Apparently the street name changed as in 1905 the address is 6620 Idaho Ave. In 1906 the address was 7105 Virginia. The only record existing from Wyman Elementary School shows an address of 3623 Folsom in 1910 as does the only card existing from Central High School. There are two cards marked "graduate". One is Wyman Elementary School. The other is a reference to pages 131 and 277 in Book 28 and is marked "HS-1". Book 28 no longer exists, but presumably the "HS-1" refers to high school.

In St Louis, his mother, Ada Lewis Gillham, was, he said, a well known pianist and vocalist. Art was influenced by the St. Louis ragtime style of piano. He had a dance band while in high school. Art developed a friendship with Billy Smythe, who was a few years older than Art. It appears they both worked as song pluggers for a St Louis music publisher. Art's father wanted him to study medicine and Art said he enrolled in St Louis University. But in 1914, after two weeks of being a college student, a traveling orchestra came to St. Louis, and he left school and went with Billy Smythe and Smythe's future brother-in-law, Scott Middleton, to play in the dance band. He wrote his parents from Denver to let them know he was pianist in an orchestra.

Hesitation Blues

THE ORIGINAL





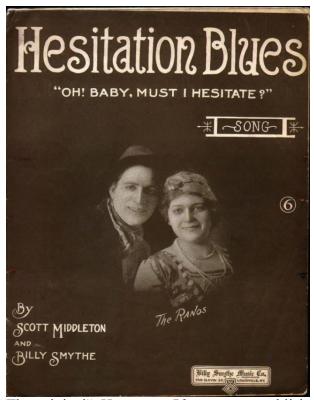
Scott Middleton

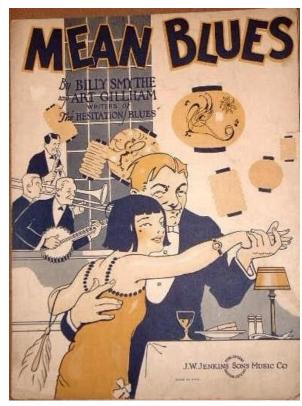
SORON PROPERTY



Billy Smythe

Art began writing songs in his teen years. In St. Louis he met and was friends with Billy Smythe, who also played piano and may have been a song plugger for St. Louis music publishers. Together with Billy's friend and future brother-in-law, Scott Middleton, they made up lyrics to an old Black folk song What resulted is *Hesitation Blues*. Billy Smythe and Scott Middleton appear to have gone or hvmn. with Art to California. Not being financially successful in California, by 1915 they returned to the Midwest and went their separate ways. Art went to St. Louis, Chicago and New York while Billy went to Louisville, Kentucky and began publishing music, one in 1915 being the song they had been playing around with on the road: Hesitation Blues but crediting only Billy Smythe and Scott Middleton as writers. The same year, W.C. Handy published a similar song, Hesitating Blues. Both were based on the same folk song or hymn. The lyrics being entirely different, but W.C. Handy acknowledged the two songs were independently written. A rift developed between Art and Billy over the omission of Art's name. The rift in their friendship lasted about seven years when Art's name was connected to the song. By 1921 they settled their differences and began writing other songs as a team. Their early songs, Mean Blues and The Deacon Told Me I Was Good, carried the slogan "By writers of the original Hesitation Blues."





"The original" Hesitation Blues was re-published in 1926 by Mills Music crediting Smythe-Middleton-Gillham. Something strange happened with the Mills Music publication – it apparently was never recorded in the copyright office, though the sheet music states "copyright 1926". In the late 1930's, after Art and Billy again went their separate ways, Billy Smythe and Scott Middleton sold their rights to the 1915 Hesitation Blues to Edwin Morris Music. As a consequence, all further publication of Hesitation Blues again omits Art's name from the credits. Because it did not show up in copyright searches, Morris was unaware of the 1926 Mills Music edition and of Art's role in Hesitation Blues. Jack Mills Music properties were sold to EMI Music. The tune invites making up of lyrics. As the tune can be considered as traditional, various versions of Hesitation Blues containing the name of the recording artist as composer, exclude the names of Smythe, Middleton, Handy and Gillham. Art claimed he was first to make up the lines "Ashes to ashes and dust to dust, show me a man (Woman) a woman (man) can trust" and "If the river was whiskey and I was a duck, I'd swim to the bottom and never come up. The "ashes to ashes" line appears in the 1926 Mills edition, but not in the 1915 Smythe edition, nor in W.C. Handy's edition of Hesitating Blues. Lyrics as recorded by Art in 1925:

(Spoken: Come on fingers, percolate, percolate, fingers. Here's where we do the meanest blues ever written, yes sir.)

I'm going down to the levee, take a rocking chair, If the blues don't leave me, going to rock away from there. Baby how long, how long I have to wait? Can I get you now, must I hesitate?

I had a sweet mama, so bashful and shy, When she mends her underwear, she plugs the needle's eye. How long, how long I have to wait? Well, can I get you now, must I hesitate? A doctor's in love with my girl, they say, I got her eating apples just to keep him away. How long, how long I have to wait? Well, can I get you now, must I hesitate?

I've met girls on railroad trains and on the river boats, But my sweet mama's got what makes a good mule eat it's oats. (Spoken: Tell me Honey, tell your Papa, how come you make him do like you do?) Well, can I get you now, must I hesitate?

While you must love your neighbors, what the Good Book say, But that don't mean to love her, when her husband's away. How long, how long I have to wait? Can I get you now, must I hesitate?

When I got home last night, I wasn't there at all, I looked through the transom another mule in my stall. How long, how long I have to wait? Can I get you now, must I hesitate?

I've got "ham" in my name, I might be awful dumb. But I've got more ideas of loving, than Wrigley has gum. How long, how long I have to wait? Can I get you now, must I hesitate?

Ashes to ashes, dust to dust, I've got a black-haired mama, that the rain can't rust. (Spoken: *Come on Mama, tell Papa how come you do's like you do?*) Oh, can I get you now, must I hesitate?

I was born down in Georgia, raised in Tennessee, When I get Hesitation Blues, my mama takes 'em away from me. How long, how long I have to wait? Oh, can I get you now, must I hesitate? (Spoken: *That's it!*)

Hesitation Blues has been used in several films. In 1931 an excerpt is played sung twice by Murray Kinnell in *The Public Enemy* with James Cagney, Joan Blondell and Jean Harlow. In 1932 it is sung by Lillian Bond in the film *Fireman, Save My Child*. In 1934 it is played in *Of Human Bondage*. In 2001 it is played in the background by Ian Whitcomb's band in *The Cat's Meow*.

According to news articles about them in the 1930's, Art Gillham and Billy Smythe wrote over 100 songs together, mentioning *Hesitation Blues* as their first joint work beginning as early as 1912. Not all were published. Art recorded most of their published songs, the last being in 1934 which he recorded for Victor's Bluebird label. While 100 songs cannot be found, it appears Art would test the songs on radio and if the response was good they would be published and Art would record them.

St Louis Post Dispatch, February 27, 1916 showing Art's connection with *Hesitation Blues*.

PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE, ATTENTION!
Get the "Hesitation Blues," the song with 100 extra comic verses; for proof, copies, extra verses and orchestrations, call A. L. Gillham, 5149 Delmar bl.; Monroe 903.



Indianapolis News, December 12, 1916

HESITATION BLUES

Learn to Dance in 12 Lessons-No. 9



ARTHUR MURRAY AND HELEN SHIPMAN, MUSICAL COMEDY STAR, SHOWING THE POSITION OF THE FEET IN THE FIFTH COUNT OF THE POLO PAUSE.

By ARTHUR MURRAY Director, National Institute of Social Dancing

trot music keeps on for any length of time, dancing will be practical- 2. ly eliminated and instead we will see couples simply walking around. Eventually people will tire of paying for the privilege of walking and will decide to do their hiking outdoors where the air is fresh and clear and the only expense is the wear and tear on shoes.

Until we can convince the orchestras of the necessity of playing dance music in the proper time, we are compelled to do two kinds of Fox Trots, fast and slow.

The Hesitation Blues is a slow Fox Trot based on steps taken from the Argentina Tango.

The Hesitation Blues In this step the man goes back-ward and the lady forward. As a rule, the man should always go forward and not backward. However the advanced dancer should be able to lead sufficiently well to guide his partner even when he dances backward. To dance backward requires not only practice but one must be a firm leader to make his partner dance toward him. Because the lady is accounted. him. Because the lady is accustomed to dancing backward, it is dif-ficult for her to go forward.

Man's part:

Stand with your back toward the Line of Direction. Begin with your If the present style of fast fox left foot and take two long slow steps directly backwards, LF 1, RF

While the weight is on your right foot, on the second step. place your left foot back behind the light foot and lift the left foot slightly off the floor as in the photograph and hold the left foot off the floor for the two full beats. The entire count is Walk backward LF 1, RF 2. Lift left foot backward.

Lady's Part:

Remember that whenever you dance forward toward your pariner no matter what dance you are doing, always step DIRECTLY toward your partner. Do not try to avoid his feet. Step straight to-ward him as though you were attempling to step on his feet.

Begin with the right foot and take two long slow steps forward, toward your partner, RF 1, LF 2.

Extend the right foot forward, lifting that foot in front, without placing any weight on the right foot. Count 3, 4. (Note that this movement is half for two full counts.)

Repeat the entire step, begin-ning with the right foot.

Composer to Sing Late Music From Post Radio Studio

Art Gillham, song-writer and recording planist, will put his "stuff" through the air from 7:30 to 8 o'clock tonight Pittsburgh Post Studio of



GILLHAM

Westinghouse Radio Station KDKA. Mr. Gillham is recognized as a composer of marked ability, all his efforts being devoted to popular music.

Mr. Gillham helped compose the "Hesitation Blues," and has a novel way of singing his latest composition and other novelty songs and ballads. He affords real pleasure when he plays the plano, which he does with the same preciseness as when he cuts rolls for the handplayed roll companies for which he re-



First recording released as a dance number - One Step.

ALL IN GETTING

Sam Antenio's Hilly Smythe is one composer in the business who can but out awing tunes without touching a plane,

Of course, a tot of swing tunes

sound as though the composer had never looked at a keyboard

But Smathe enn actually conculve a tune, write it out in full, words and music, and never go near a place

He ean do it without as smoot as humming to librarit. Moreover, when he hears it played later, it always sounds just like he wants it to.

Southe, a member of the KMAC soles and production sinff, does very little compacing nowadays, but over the course of the past 20 years he hea peldished more than 300

He was a partner of Art Gibban, the famous Whispering Plannit who, back in the middle 20%, was the top-seller among recording artists.

Offilmen was the tirut of the Intimate recording stagers and he beloed plug and put over many a Benythe bit

Their first collaboration was the odd cinnic bines, "Meetineleet con Blues". You remember: "Can I Get bor You New, or Must 1 Hestante?" Sonythe still gets royalities off of un that one.

In the years that Indowed. Smythe wrote so many songs he ease't remember thin all. slounlly he gets royalties on tomes

whose names he has forgitten.
At his peak, Smythe frequently looked bimiself in hotel moons with penalls and score paper (some plane) and enone out with as many as E. three new tunes.

He doron't always compose without the plane. He new eccasionalte aits down at the keyboard, doodles pround a bit, and bate out a two jest for the brek of it.

He doesn't by to publish anymore -with Unings like they are he figuses it isn't worth the topulate.

COMPOSER OF NOTE



ONCE LEADING U. S. SONGWRITER BILLY SMYTHI Composed "Hesitation Blues," selling in millions.

Insurance Field

A. Agency Tops Boys' Club Marble Chapm

Extra Special All The New

34

COL

Olle

"BLUE" Hits On Victor Records

Hesitation Blues Kansas City Blues

Joe Turner Blues Nigger Blues

GET YOURS TODAY

J. P. DOWELL

Art also wrote songs with Wendell Hall, J. Russell Robinson and Segar Ellis among others.

World War One

In New York Art was a song plugger and studied music with Ernest E. Brambach. Art entered the Army in July 1918 was assigned to Officer's Training School at Fort Gordon, GA, and assigned to a singing group that performed at Theodore Roosevelt's last public appearance, then received an honorable discharge in November, 1918 a few weeks after the war's end.

DECISTRATION GARDS IN. 227	
X RECISION DE Contraction 25	
2 Hours 3615 Felesce St Paris Mrs.	
Garay - 1-1892	
Date of hirth (100) and hirth (100) and the color of the	
E Where were If Pours Mo. M. V. U.	1
Jenny (Total)	ı
6 Hard e Harm at what country are required to the state of the second 28 7 What is now recorded. Musice country 28 2 Second recorded to the second state of the second	
Surprised de de au feater under le salety dependent on you le	
3 Have you a lather, matter, and MA.	-
10 Married or simple (which)? Lug (Reco (specify which)?	
11 What earliery service have you had? Reth	444
12 De routhin terriform. 12 De routhin terriform that I have verified above answers and that they are true.	22.5
When & Fillham.	4
(Agenture of mark)	1

Draft Registration card May 31, 1917

Art sang in Camp Whitman Quintet at last public appearance of Theodore Roosevelt, September 30, 1918



Marriages

Gillham-Canady. The wedding of Miss Louisa Jane Canady and Mr. Arthur Gillham, of Chicago, whose engagement was announced last week, took place Saturday noon in the parsonage of the Plymouth Congregational the Rev. Arthur J. Folsom, Officiating. The affair was quiet indeed only the immediate family being present as witnesses. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Canady, 525 Huffman street, and an accomplished vocal artist. The young couple will remain in the city until June 1 when they will go to Louisville, Ky., where Mr. Gillham will open a music publishing house.

Fort Wayne, Indiana, April 21, 1919

After the war, Art met, Louisa Canada, his first wife in a theatre in Scranton, PA. She was a singer in the San Carlo Opera Company, a touring opera company. The San Carlo toured large cites for performances up to a month, nine performances a week as well as smaller cities for a couple of days up to two weeks, and small towns for one night stands. She appeared in vaudeville as "Delores Valesco" with Art accompanying her on piano. She was also a song plugger for Ted Browne Music. They married in 1919 and soon had two boys. She made a few recordings for Gennett, Gaiety and Champion. They divorced in September 1923. They remarried and divorced a second and final time in 1931. In 1932 Art married Gertrude Sheldon in Chicago. She had a beauty tips program on WBBM while Art was on the same station. He said he was attracted to her because she had never heard of Art Gillham.

BEBE DANIELS

Art returned to the West Coast in 1919 and led a small group called Art Gillham And His Society Syncopators and was music director for film actress Bebe Daniels' tours 1919 to 1923. The band was called Bebe Daniel's Movieland Syncopators. Articles appeared which named the band members.



Ted Browne Music - Beginnings In Radio

Art probably began his association with Ted Browne during his teen years in St. Louis. Ted Browne, born Fred Brownold on April 23, 1880 in Iowa, was a St. Louis songwriter and publisher until he moved to Chicago and formed a partnership with Charles Harrison. About 1920, Art returned to Chicago and bought an interest in Ted Browne Music. He was named Sales Manager and worked as a song plugger for the company. He traveled around the country plugging songs on the Keith and the Publix circuits and in dime stores music stores and radio. As a song plugger he played solo piano or accompanied singers who were: Lew Farris, Charley Harrison, Joe Vergus, Big Boy Yagel, Art Gillham, Delores Valesco, George Givot, the Harmony Girls (Edith Carpenter and Grace Ingraham).



When radio began in 1922, he began appearing on the local Chicago radio station at the Drake Hotel to play The Ted Browne Music songs as solo piano or accompanying singers, one of whom was his wife. At WDAP, in Chicago, the scheduled singer did not appear and he was dared to sing on radio in 1923. Not being a singer, he took the challenge and sang in a quiet manner. Reportedly his singing was so soft that it could barely be heard in the studio, but there was immediate positive response from listeners. As he traveled playing in music stores he also played on local radio stations in each town he visited. Wendell Hall also was a song plugger in Chicago. Art and Wendell would travel around and stop at Music stores to plug the music of their publishers. At each town that had a radio station they would stop by to play their publishers' music. As it was the beginning of radio, the stations were happy to have free talent and the talent was happy to have an opportunity to play to more people than would be present at the music store or at the five and dime stores. In February, 1924, he and Wendell Hall appeared on WSB in Atlanta. Lambdin Kay, WSB program director, was also the radio columnist for the Atlanta *Journal*. He featured Art's photo with the caption "Whispering Pianist". Art continued to use that as his billing throughout his career. Though he never recorded it, he used *Whispering* as his theme song on radio and personal appearances. Ted Browne died in November, 1969 in Chicago.



Atlanta Journal February 24, 1924

IRENE BEASLEY

As his fame quickly grew in radio, in 1924 he was approached by a school teacher who had written a song and asked him to sing it on radio. He told her that if she could carry a tune she should sing it and presented her on his program. Irene Beasley credited Art's encouragement with her success in radio, records and personal appearances. She told of having written If I Could Just Stop Dreaming and said: "About this time one of the men in Houck's Music Shop in Memphis told Art Gillham the whispering pianist, who was a regular on the staff of WMC in Memphis, that I had written some little negro songs that he might be able to use, and Gillham asked me to come see him and talk over my songs. After we talked a few minutes he asked: "You sing don't you?" "No", I answered truthfully. "You can carry a tune, can't you?" "In a basket", I replied. "You are foolish to get other people to plug your songs," he said, "Sing them yourself. WMC would be glad to have you do it." "I'd die of fright," I told him. He replied "That's all hokum. Get up there at the mike. Sing and make them like it." I've never forgotten that line, "sing and make 'em like it." "What Gillham said gave me a little confidence and I thought maybe I might try singing. She was a success on radio and signed with Victor. At 5 feet 11 inches she billed herself as "the long tall gal from Dixie" As he had been dared to sing on radio and gained a career, so dare to Irene Beasley led to her successful career in radio and records. She appeared on his programs in Memphis before going on her own in national radio, being most noted for a musical quiz show, Grand Slam, which ran from 1943-1953 on CBS.

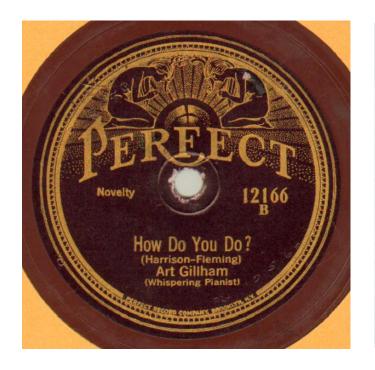


Phonograph Recording

From his popularity as a radio performer, he began his recording career by 1924. An article in the *Atlanta Journal* in February, 1924 states he had made phonograph records, but no information about them has been found. Perhaps he made some recordings for a small label either on the west coast or in Chicago, but no such recordings, or advertisements for them have been found.

On May 2, 1924, his first known recording session was with Gennett in Richmond, Indiana. He was referred to Gennett by Wendell Hall. As Art Gillham, The Whispering Pianist, he recorded four of his own compositions. None were released.

In early October, 1924 Art was in New York. He sent telegrams to the major record companies telling of his radio following and invited the recording directors to listen to him on radio while he was in New York. He was contacted by Pathe and recorded two songs. The Pathe songs were issued on Pathe, Perfect, Starr Gennett, Ajax and Apex labels. Some of those recordings were issued under the pseudonym "Fred Thomas", possibly after he began recording as an Exclusive Artist for Columbia. His first known recording to be released was issued in December, 1924. He was also contacted by Arthur Berg of Okeh. Art recalled making some recordings for Okeh, but no record of a recording session has been found.





Art was also contacted by Frank Walker of Columbia Records and was signed as an Exclusive Artist. On October 22, 1924 he began recording for Columbia Records with the aptly titled *How Do You Do*. The song was one he was plugging for Ted Browne. It later became the theme of Billy Jones and Ernest Hare, "The Happiness Boys". Art's recording was made using the acoustical horn. Two days later, Columbia made its first session of electrical recordings by Paul Specht and His Orchestra with seven takes, none of which were released. Brian Rust's *Columbia Masters Discography*, *Vol. 3 (1924-1934)* indicates these

were not made using the Western Electric system that Columbia later used. Columbia's next noted electrical recording session was February 25, 1925 with Art Gillham. Columbia recorded 7 titles with Art



Gillham using the Western Electric process on February 25, 26, and 27. Columbia began using the electric system for its other artists on February 27, 1925. Victor began using the Western Electric system in March, 1924. They both agreed to not make public the new recordings so they could continue to sell the old acoustic recordings in their warehouses.

NOTE ALL ART GILLHAM RECORDINGS ARE AVAILABLE FOR FREE DOWNLOAD AT INTERNET ARCHIVE: ARCHIVE.ORG

Wendell Hall – Eveready Hour – 1924 Election Night Broadcast

Art and Wendell Hall first met in Chicago. They both were song pluggers for Chicago music publishers. Wendell and Art became friends. They each traveled plugging songs and frequently were in the same town at the same time. Wendell recalled that he and his wife were eating in a top restaurant when his wife said, "Here comes Art Gillham!" Wendell turned to look. Art was not there, but when he turned back around his wife had taken his steak. Art appeared on Wendell's radio programs, *The Eveready Hour*, and *The Majestic Hour*, several times. Art and Wendell wrote a song together, *I'm Just A Rollin' Stone*. When I asked Wendell about it he said he was mad at Art because Art promised to record it but never did. I told him Art had recorded it and Columbia did release it, but on Columbia's "Race" label under the name "Barrel-house Pete". Wendell Hall wrote many songs, the most popular being *It Ain't Gonna Rain No Mo'*. He also recorded for Victor and other labels. In fact he had recorded for Gennett and referred Art to Gennett. Art made his first several recording for Gennett in 1924, but none were released. Wendell Hall became one of the more successful radio stars of the 1920s, was married on radio and later a successful commercial jingle writer for radio.

On November 4, 1924 Art was one of the entertainers on the WEAF election night program which was a "hookup" of 18 stations, a precursor of network broadcasting. The program was the *Eveready Hour*, sponsored by the National Carbon Company, which broadcast each Tuesday evening over WEAF. The other entertainers were Will Rogers, Wendell Hall "The Red Headed Music Maker", Carson Robison, and the Everyready Quartet. The Waldorf-Astoria Dance Orchestra was led by Joseph Knecht. Graham McNamee announced the election returns. Calvin Coolidge was elected President. Among the stations on the "hook-up" were Boston (WEEI), Washington (WCAP), Buffalo (WGR), Pittsburg (WCAK), and Davenport (WOC).



Standing right to left: Will Rogers, Art Gillham, Wendell Hall, Eveready Quartet, Graham McNamee, leading Waldorf Astoria Orchestra is Ben Posner standing by mike.

BEGINNING OF ELECTRICAL RECORDING

In an interview in May, 1961, a few weeks before his death, Art stated that when Columbia brought in the Western Electric equipment to make electrical recordings, he was asked by Frank Walker to donate his time in helping the technicians adjust the equipment. Art said he made test recordings for five days. A recording would be made, listened to, the equipment would be readjusted, and another recording made for most of the five days until the engineers were satisfied they had the correct settings and adjustments. A few months later, Columbia gave Art a check for \$1000.00 "for being a nice guy" - "not a salary bonus, a gift". He also said that his radio listeners could not detect that it was him on the acoustical recordings because he had to shout, but his style was the same as his radio style on the electrical recordings.

Western Electric began testing electrical recording in the early 1920s. Tests were made by various artists and test pressings made. Some of the test pressing were sent to Victor and Columbia to consider using Western Electric equipment in their recording. The previous year had not been good for record companies due to competition from free radio. Victor was not willing to commit because of the high cost plus royalties that Western Electric required. After Victor declined, the system was offered to Columbia. Louis Sterling of England's Columbia became interested and came to the USA to sign with Western Electric. American Columbia offered several of its artists for Western Electric tests as early as August, 1924, before Art Gillham was a Columbia artist. It appears Art began testing the Western Electric system in January, 1925. On February 25, 1925, Art recorded five songs using a microphone instead of the acoustical recording horn. Other recordings on February 25 were made by the Clover Gardens Orchestra with vocalist Billy Jones, but they were made using the acoustical horn. The next day Art recorded another song using the microphone and another on February 27. Five of those recordings were

released and were the first electrically recorded masters to be released using the new Western Electric system.



Recorded February 25, 1925 using Western Electric Recording System. Recording was issued on three different Columbia labels. First was "flag" label in May or June, 1925, then on black Viva-Tonal label, then on black Viva-Tonal Electrical Process label.

Ian Whitcomb reports that England's Columbia made an earlier electrical recording using the telephone mouthpiece as the microphone. The recording was of the burial service of the Unknown Soldier on Armistice Day, September 11, 1920. The sound was sent over telephone lines from Westminster Abbey to the recorder in a near-by building. Autograph Records of Chicago's Marsh Laboratories, which primarily made recordings for private concerns rather than for the commercial market, were made electrically by late 1924, with a primitive system of electric recording, which Brian Rust describes as "some of the most painfully distorted recordings in the entire history of the industry.") Lee De Forest filed a patent for making recordings using a microphone on film in 1919. About 1923, he presented it as Phonofilm and filmed Sissle and Blake, Ben Bernie, Eddie Cantor and others, but was unsuccessful in getting the major film companies to use it. The recordings were light on film, not on records for sale to the public. The first successful "soundies" used the Western Electric system.

Beginning on February 27, 1925, Columbia began using the microphone, and Western Electric process, for most of its recordings. Victor became licensed to use the Western Electric system in March, 1925. The day after Art Gillham's electrical—recordings Victor had a test recording in both acoustic and electrical of A Miniature Concert.. In April, Victor decided for a July 1925 release of the electrical recordings. Victor's first electrically recorded master to be released was recorded on March 16, 1925: master 32160, *Joan of Arkansas* by the University Of Pennsylvania Mask And Wig Club, Victor 19626. According to *High Fidelity Magazine* (January, 1977, p 95), *Joan Of Arkansas* may have been released in April, 1925, presumably prior to Columbia's release of Art's *You May Be Lonesome* on Columbia 328-D, which was released in May. Columbia announced the release of 328-D in the Talking Machine Word, May, 1925. Electrical recordings he made on February 26 and 27 were released on Columbia 326-D in May, 1925. Sony, which bought Columbia, reports the first electrical release as by the Associated Glee

Clubs of America, which was recorded on March 31, 1925. Brian Rust shows 6 masters made at the performance, two being released on Col 348-D (*Discovery/A Plainsman's Song*). The 1929 Australian Columbia catalog states Columbia released *Adeste Fideles* backed with *John Peel* from that concert with the Australian Columbia release number 9048. The Associated Glee Clubs recording may have led people in the industry to be aware of the new electrical process because it was a huge chorus of 850 male voices plus a singing audience of 4,000 recorded in the Metropolitan Opera House. Neither Victor nor Columbia publicized the change from acoustical to electric recording until 1926, presumably to build up a catalog, and to deplete the acoustical catalog, before telling the public that acoustical records had been surpassed. There were no electrical players available and being played on the acoustical phonographs the sound was hardly distinguishable from the acoustic records. Columbia used an etched "W" on the runoff area by the label to designate Western Electric. Victor used a "VE" etched on the runoff area. Though the first Columbia electrical records did not have the W.

Art said he generally went to the studio, made his records, got paid and did not pay attention to which records were released and which were not, yet even though there was no publicity building up for the first electrical releases, Art was very much aware of the fact that his recordings on February 25, 1925 were the first Western Electric recordings made that were released. He was also aware that his own composition, *You May Be Lonesome*, was the first electrically recorded master of the series to be released, even though a later one of his masters had the earlier label number. He was under the impression they were the first electrical recordings, possibly not being aware of the English Columbia attempt nor the small Autograph label in Chicago. He did attach the word "successful" to his claim. Art was pleased with the new recording process because he could be more soft spoken and intimate as he was on radio. His records were also sold in England, Canada and Australia.

Art's scrapbook has clippings about his radio broadcasts that were barely audible in the studio were picked up by listeners in Australia and heard clearly. In June, 1926 Columbia imported record presses to Sidney, Australia. The first 10 inch Australian Columbia record pressed was Art's recordings of *In Your Green Hat* and *It's Too Late To Be Sorry Now*, Australian Columbia 0501 in July, 1926.

Personal Appearances

He had appeared in vaudeville in the 19teens and early 1920's on the Keith circuit playing piano and accompanying singers before he began vocalizing. In the mid to late 1920's he appeared on the Pantages circuit in the West and the Loew's - Saenger circuit in the South. His appearances were well advertised and he would visit the stores where records were sold. Such stores were music stores, dime stores, furniture stores and drug stores. He also visited the radio stations in each city. Newspapers would have full page ads about his Columbia Records, his appearance on the radio or in a theatre, and articles about him, sometimes there were contests based on his appearance. He made endorsements of cars and other items and publicized public appearances to promote a product or service. Articles show that he autographed records on his appearances at stores and he was praised for supporting record dealers. On his broadcasts he would announce that he would be at a particular store to meet his fans. His soft intimate style, before amplification in theatres, limited him to the smaller theatres. He would appear on stage at the piano with a telephone. While playing piano the telephone would ring and he entered into a brief conversation with his girl who was breaking up with him, then he would begin singing his "sob songs". In 1927, the peak year of his career, he appeared at Atlanta's Loew's Grand Theatre and held the attendance record for the theatre until Gone With The Wind premiered there in 1939.



Art standing at rear of photo next to the piano

Art had a sense of humor about himself. He would refer to himself as a fat, balding, poor boy from Georgia who couldn't keep a sweetheart. He was in fact tall, slim, with thick wavy hair with a wife and two sons. Most of his songs were of seeking love and fortune to have it pass on by, or of lost love, "sob songs". One book of sheet music is titled *Art Gillham Sob Songs*. He referred to himself as the world's worst piano player and would talk to his fingers. In a series of publicity pictures about recording for Columbia, he is shown sleeping on a park bench with the caption "Art's luxurious New York hotel suite" and one of a man directing him to leave captioned as "Art is greeted by thousands as he enters the studio to make Columbia records". Though he created the fat balding old man image on radio and records, publicity about his records and appearances and photos on sheet music showed his true image.

Red Nichols - Dorsey Brothers - Benny Goodman

Before recording for Columbia, Art had a small jazz band. On his Columbia recordings he is usually solo singing and playing piano. Some of his recordings have a novelty accompaniment of violin. Before discography, Art said he had worked with Red Nichols, Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey and Benny Goodman. The Columbia information on personnel on his recordings is sketchy, however researchers have identified Nichols, Jimmy Dorsey and Goodman on some of his recordings. Some of his recordings have

a small band billed on the label as his Southland Syncopators, which consisted of Columbia house musicians that included Red Nichols, Andy Sannella, Murray Kellner, Mannie Klein, Jimmy Dorsey and Benny Goodman and perhaps Tommy Dorsey. An article on Andy Sannella notes:

"One of the greatest groups of this era was Art Gillham's Southland Syncopators, the Columbia "house musicians" combo including the fine trumpeter Red Nichols, as well as the young clarinetist Benny Goodman. In the course of Gillham's superb run of releases, there is a patch heavy with Sannella's influence. There is a superb version of Sannella's original "I'm Waiting for Ships That Never Come In," while "The Saxophone Waltz" was really a record that handed Sannella the world on a platter in allowing him to write a piece for the group that would also feature him in the capacity of star soloist." (https://itunes.apple.com/us/artist/andy-sannella/id158229386)

Apparently the "southland" is that of southern California, or of the southern states as Art sometimes listed his birthplace as Atlanta. On one recording session, October 7, 1930, Art does not play piano at all, but it is played by black pianist, Alex Hill. On some recordings—there is a second piano for boosted rhythm, played by Rube Bloom, Lew Pollack, Peter de Rose and others. He made one recording with another group when the scheduled singer did not show up: Lanin's Red Heads (Red Nichols) *Five Foot Two, Eyes of Blue*.





Art said he and Red Nichols were friends and that he always chose Red Nichols to play on the Southland Syncopators recordings. He said he was given the right to pick which musicians would be on his records. Red Nichols and Benny Goodman both identified their presence on some of Art's recordings, Goodman being on 2265-D. An expert on Jimmy Dorsey has identified JD on some of the recordings. Miff Mole is speculated as trombone on some recordings, but perhaps those are by Tommy Dorsey as claimed by Art. He made one recording where he did not play piano, which was played by black composer-artist Alex Hill

Gene Austin – Jack Smith The Whispering Baritone

Art Gillham was a popular artist in his day. His primary competitor was Gene Austin at Victor. Frank Walker, recording director at Columbia and Victor's recording director tried to get them to record the same tunes. According to Art and Gene, they were friends and would talk together before recording to try to avoid recording the same songs. Victor did test recordings of Jack Smith and the test recordings were labeled "Whispering Pianist." On September 15, 1925 Jack Smith recorded *Cecilia*, a title Art had

recorded on June 27, 1925, and by billing him as Jack Smith The Whispering Baritone. Jack Smith recorded for Victor from September 15, 1925 to October 25, 1929. Art never spoke ill about Jack Smith, only of Victor's behind the scenes accusations that Art was imitating Smith. Art always stated that Smith was the better singer, and that Art was the better pianist. Columbia quickly countered Victor's campaign by publicly advertising Art as "already famous enough to be imitated". Art wrote a letter to the trade publications about being called an imitator and detailing the chronology of his being called the Whispering Pianist. Surprisingly, Columbia had an artist who made a few records in 1927 who was billed as Whispering Billy Day. Art's "whispering" style was done on purpose to create an illusion of intimacy between himself and the listener, as if he were talking only to the one listening to the record or radio. Jack Smith's whispering style was due to a war injury. After Art's death, a popular country singer from Decatur, Georgia, whose parents were fans of Art Gillham, billed himself as Whispering Bill Anderson. In England there was a Roy Stevens who billed as "The Whispering Pianist" in the 1950s.



Art Gillham and Gene Austin on Art's WQXI program in September, 1953. Gene was playing at the Henry Grady Hotel in downtown Atlanta.

Art recorded 182 sides, 132 of which were released, plus one released only in Australia. Only one record was not backed with another Art Gillham number. He recorded many songs that he had composed. Among his best sellers were: You May Be Lonesome; Hesitation Blues; Angry; Cecilia; I'm Sitting On Top of The World; I'd Climb The Highest Mountain; Tenderly; Tonight You Belong To Me; I'm Waiting For Ships That Never Come In; So Tired; In My Sweetheart's Arms; Chinatown My Chinatown; On The Alamo; Just Forget; I'm Confessin'; Shine On Harvest Moon.

Stock Market Crash - Depression

In 1929 he lost most of his money in the stock market crash. The crash almost resulted in the demise of Columbia Records. The number of recording sessions for all artists dropped, but Art continued recording. In 1930, *Variety* listed him as Columbia's second most popular male vocalist. But with the depression all record sales dropped and Art made his last Columbia record in 1931. His records continued being listed in Columbia catalogs through 1933. His first Columbia recording issued was *How Do You Do*. His last Columbia recording was aptly *Just A Moment More To Say Goodbye*. It was also in 1931 that he and his wife were divorced. And in 1932 he married Gertrude Sheldon who remained his wife to his death in 1961.

CBS – Syncopated Pessimism - Breakfast With Art Lotus Land -Depression Radio

Art began in radio in Chicago in 1923. He traveled the country and in each town he visited he would stop in at the local radio station and play. Ted Browne songs. It was while playing on Atlanta's WSB in February, 1924 that he was called "the Whispering Pianist". He appeared on one of the first pre-network national "hook-ups" of a commercial program on November 4, 1924. Before networks began he had appeared on over 300 stations nationwide. For some of his travels he flew and did some broadcasts from the air field with a portable organ sitting next to his plane. In 1931, during the depression, he had a program on CBS radio called *Syncopated Pessimism*, and morning show on CBS called *Breakfast With Art.* and another as *Lotus Land.* As the depression deepened he no longer recorded for Columbia but had 6 month or so stints in various cities on radio: St. Louis, Chicago, San Antonio, New Orleans, and Cincinnati, before settling in Atlanta in 1937. It appears he was seldom out of work during the depression.



Try these on your radio tonight:
Art Gillham in Syncopated Pessimism, WAHC and stations at 5:30,
Beatrice Lillie; English comedienne, Del Staigers, cornetist, and Nat
Brusiloff's orchestra, WJZ and oth-

Talk, "a closeup of Stalin," by Eugene Lyons, Moscow correspondent of the United Press, WEAF and network at 8:45.

ers at 7:00.





Syncopated Pessimism on CBS

In 1932, Art was working at Chicago's WBBM. His program was followed by a program of beauty hints by Gertrude Sheldon. She had never heard of him, which intrigued him. Soon they were married. About 1931-1932, Art made recordings for Allied Transcriptions. Twelve titles are known. He made one additional recording on March 31, 1934 for Bluebird. The recording took place in San Antonio, Texas and he was accompanied by his long time song writing partner, Billy Smythe.

Atlanta

Art returned to Atlanta, GA in 1937, where he continued to broadcast on WSB, WGST, and WAGA. He appeared on the first demonstration of television in 1939 at Atlanta's Rich's Department Store. Art became principal of Crichton's Business College. He confined most of his performing to Atlanta's Buckhead Elks Club and for friends. When television came to Atlanta, Art made appearances on various local programs. and was frequently on WAGA-TV's Saturday night *Arthur Murray Dance Party*. After retiring from Crichton's, he opened his own business in Atlanta's Buckhead area for sales representatives to have office space. Art had a little over three acres in an undeveloped area north of Atlanta. He built a modest house on a dirt road where he had previously used the property for his own firing range. In 1953-1954 he had his own weekly radio program on Atlanta's WQXI.



1939 First demonstration of television in the South

He had a heart attack in 1954 which affected his left arm and then confined his playing to gatherings of friends. He had a second heart attack about two years later. He died of a heart attack upon getting out of bed on the morning of June 6, 1961. He is buried at Arlington Cemetery in Sandy Springs, northern suburb of Atlanta. Gertrude died October 24, 1983 in North Carolina living with Art's son Hal Gillham.

BIO-DISCOGRAPHY CHRONOLOGY & SCRAPBOOK

EARLY YEARS

Society Syncopators - Songwriter

1895-1915

1895, January 1

St. Louis, MO. Born. Father George Gillham, mother Ada Lewis. Paternal grandfather was Isham Gillham, who was described as "musical director for the great Ole Bull." Ole Bull violinist from Norway who toured the United States in the 19th century.

Gillham Addie, wid. John, r. 2240 Oregon av. Gillham Allan J. switch. r. 3902 N. 11th Gillham Estella, r. 2832A Olive Gillham George, carbldr. r. 220012 Sidney Gillham Gersham F. team r. rear 402 Victor

St Louis City

Directory 1895

born "born" Atlanta. Art said he lived in Atlanta, GA. At various times in his career he said he was born in Atlanta. At other times he said he was born in St. Louis. He was in St. Louis and remained there until 1914. The "Whispering Pianist" was in Atlanta in 1924.

1898, March 19

St. Louis sister Ruth born

1900, June 4

St. Louis census shows George Gillham, wife Idah, son Arthur L age 5, and daughter Ruth M., age 1 (December 1898), residing at 1411 Ewing Ave. George is shown as a carpenter. Art begins piano lessons.

1900, June 6

as a

St. Louis census shows Fred Brownold (later to be known as Ted Browne) as age 20, born in Iowa, living with his mother and stepfather. Fred's occupation is telegraph operator.

1900, June 11

St. Louis census shows Edith L. Middleton, born July, 1886 in Washington, DC, in the home of her mother and stepfather.

1901

St. Louis. Enrolled in Henry Taylor Blow Elementary School from 1901 to 1906, residence shown in school records as 6620 S. 8th St.

1905,

St. Louis. School record shows address as 6620 Idaho Ave.

1906,

St. Louis. School record shows address as 7105 Virginia.

1910, about

St. Louis: Art at 15 was influenced by St. Louis style of ragtime, organized a dance band at Central High School, which played for money at private parties and in public auditoriums. (The first known song by Billy Smythe, written with Clarence Brandon, was published: *I Wonder If She's Still A Friend Of Mine*)

1910, April 15

St. Louis census shows George Gillham as a Pullman coach builder . Family includes wife Ada, son Arthur, and daughter Ruth Mary.

The same census date shows Billy Smythe as William Schmitt, age 22 living with his parents Charles and Addiline Schmitt and Billy's wife Edith who was 23. Billy is shown as a music salesman.

1910

St. Louis. Gradated from Wyman Elementary School and enrolled in Central High School. School records show address as 3623 Folsom.

1911

(Billy Smythe and Clarence Brandon publish *Ten Penny Rag* and *I Ain't Got Nobody*.)

1912,

St. Louis. Art is reported to have made his first piano roll for Marimba. Title and number unknown. Became familiar with a Black folk song or hymn and began playing around with it making up verses with Billy Smythe. The tune later became known as *Hesitation Blues* (Smythe-Middleton-Gillham) and *Hesitating Blues* (W.C. Handy). Some articles give the publication date as 1912, but no publication has been found earlier than 1915. (Billy Smythe and Ben Brown publish *Before That Ragtime Band Goes Home*. Smythe and Brandon publish *That Educator Rag*.)

1913, about

St Louis: studied piano at Strassberger's Conservatory of Music. Art worked at a piano studio at Grand and Olive, teaching popular music. No doubt he had contact with St. Louis music writer and publisher Ted Browne. Browne later moved to Chicago where Art resumed association with Browne. (Billy Smythe wrote a song with his wife Edith Middleton, *The Rose That Grows In Dreamland Just For You*, his last known song until *Hesitation Blues* is published in 1915.)

1914,

St Louis. Art graduated from Central High School. Art said he enrolled in St Louis University, but left after a few weeks to go with Billy Smythe and Smythe's brother-in-law, Scott Middleton, to play in a band traveling to the West Coast.

1915

Being unsuccessful at making a living on the west coast, they returned to St. Louis and parted ways. Billy Smith went to Louisville, Kentucky. Scott Middleton went to Chicago. They are not known to be together again until 1921.

1915,

Hesitation Blues by Billy Smythe and Scott Middleton, originally published by Billy Smythe Music Co. of Louisville and Chicago. Original sheet music left off Art's name. Strangely, on May 5, 1915, the copyright office received both the Smythe-Middleton Hesitation Blues and the W.C. Handy Hesitating Blues. The 1926 edition has added multiple choruses, a different arrangement, and Art's name on the music and states "The Original Hesitation Blues". He may have added choruses to the original publication. Early 1920's Gillham-Smythe songs carry the slogan "by the writers of Hesitation Blues". Art said specifically that he wrote the words "ashes to ashes, dust to dust, show me a woman a man can trust" and "if the river was whiskey and I were a duck, I'd swim to the bottom and never come up." The claim has not been proven, nor have earlier printed versions been found with those lyrics. Both Handy and Gillham said the tune was traditional. Definite origins of the tune have not been found, though it was used prior to 1914, It is interesting that a Georgia singer Fiddlin' John Carson also used "Hesitation Blues" for two political compositions: "Tom Watson special" for the 1924 Georgia gubernatorial campaign (Okeh 40050 recorded November 8, 1923) and "Georgia's Three-Dollar Tag" for Eugene Talmadge's 1932 campaign for the same post (Bluebird B-5401, recorded Feb 27, 1934). Later, Langston Hughes specified the use of the tune of Hesitation Blues in his "Ask Your Mama - 12 Moods For Jazz" (1961).

1915-1921 - TRAVELING MAN

	plugger, publisher unknown. Based in New York he did some traveling plugging songs.
1916	(Billy Smythe and Scott Middleton publish <i>Arithmetic of Love</i> and <i>Joy Man Blues</i> . Smythe with Al Johnson and Jay Pat Roberts publish <i>Day and Night (Lovers' Blues)</i> .
1916	(Rev Gary Davis of South Carolina, who recorded <i>Hesitation Blues</i> in the 1930's and 1940's "learned it from a fella come through jigging it on a piano": Stephen Calt's liner notes to LP <i>New Blues and Gospel</i> , Biograph BLP-12030)

1917, St. Louis teaching piano and demonstrating songs in a music store.

1915-1916

1917-1918

1917 (Billy Smythe publishes several songs: Move Your Feet; Fight For The Flag We Love; Sweet Honolulu Maid Who Waits For Me; Over The Overland Route In An Overland Car.)

1917, April 6 (United States enters World War I – declaration of war issued.)

Sheet music: *Smile As You Kiss Me Goodbye* by Art Gillham and Ray Egan published by A.J. Stasny Music, N.Y.



1918, July 10

St. Louis. Art enlisted in the National Army LB 16 (serial number 1963517). Though later Art believed he was born in Atlanta and many articles about him during his career state Atlanta as his birthplace, his enlistment shows him as born in St. Louis. He gave his work as musician at Krafy 5&10 cent store in Indianapolis. He gave his birthdate wrong as Jan 1, "1892." When Art applied for Social Security shortly before his death, he thought he was born in Atlanta. When he could not find a birth record in Atlanta, Fulton County, he learned he was born in St. Louis.

1918, July 20

Will It Be Long Until We Meet Again copyrighted. Words by Al Worth, published by Echo Music, N.Y.

1918, Aug 1

Camp Gordon, GA. Army assigned to 31 Co Central Officers Training School.

GILLHAM, ARTHUR L., 1963517, White, 1258 Bonnie View, Lakewood, O. NA LB 16 St Louis, Mo. July 10/18. Br St Louis, Mo. 27 6/12 yrs. 158 Dep Brig to Oct 15/18; 31 Co COTS Cp Gordon Ga to disch. Corp Aug 1/18. Hon disch Nov 29/18.

1918, Sept 30

Columbus, OH. Art was part of an Army singing group and performed at the last public appearance of Theodore Roosevelt at the dedication of a plaque. First indication that Art did any singing.

1918, Oct 15

Lakewood, OH. Art is assigned to 158 Depot Brigade.

1918, Nov 11

(World War I ends - signing of armistice.)

1918, Nov 29

Honorable discharge. He was a marksman. Guns were important to him for the rest of his life and he appeared in formal shooting matches.

1918,

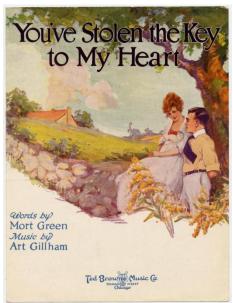
Chicago: begins working for Ted Browne Music Company traveling the country plugging Ted Browne songs. He probably knew Ted Browne from St. Louis days.

1919,

Los Angeles: had band Art Gillham's Society Syncopaters, a five piece group: two men doubled on reeds, violin and cornet; trombone, drums, piano.



1919, Sheet Music: You've Stolen The Key To My Heart, Mort Green & Art Gillham, published by Ted Browne Music. The song was also included in a Harold Rossiter song folio of William H. Kibble's play Uncle Tom's Cabin. It was also published in a minstrel song folio In Old Kentucky, also published by Rossiter, and in Gus Hill presents Bud Fisher's Mutt and Jeff – A Musical Comedy Songbook, published by Rossiter.





1919

while song plugging in Scranton, PA, he met Louisa Canada who was billed as "Dolores Valesco in a local theatre with the San Carlo Opera Company..

1919

Days of Yesterday recorded by Elliott Shaw on Victor 19268.

1919, April 19

married Louisa J. Canada in Fort Wayne, Allen County, IN. Born April 28, 1901, she was a coloratura soprano with the San Carlo Opera. Art was hired as her piano player. They later had homes in Memphis, TN. and a summer home on Lake James, IN.

Gillham-Canady.

The wedding of Miss Louisa Jane Canady and Mr. Arthur Gillham, of Chicago, whose engagement was announced last week, took place Saturday noon in the parsonage of the Plymouth Congregational church, the Rev. Arthur J. Folsom, Officiating. The affair was quiet indeed only the immediate family being present as witnesses. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Canady, 525 Huffman street, and an accomplished vocal artist. The young couple will remain in the city until June 1 when they will go to Louis-

ville, Ky., where Mr. Gillham will open a music publishing house.

1919-1922 group Art was music director for movie actress Bebe Daniels' accompanying the California Movieland Syncopators which toured. No recordings are known to have been made by this group. Articles show he was previously with Stasney Music Co.

Apparently a seasonal job 1919-1922

Bebe Daniels' Orchesira Here From Los Angeles, Calif.

The many dance enthusiasts of Nashua and vicinity will have the pleasure of hearing Bebe Daniels' Famous Movieland Syncopators on Friday evening of this week, May 26, at Granger's opera house. This orchestra boasts the best dance combination in the country, and has met with wonderful success on their trip from Los Angeles.

Numbered with this all-star aggregation are, Art Gillham, director; Chas. Newman, the well-known kid violinist of Los Angeles: Jim Harris. Piano accordian, and Glenn Geneva, the famous jazz cornet player. This orchestra has the only Piano Accordian in this part of the country. The organization is under the management of "Smiling" Billic Corthay.

Each of the even melody boys of Bebe Daniel's Movieland Syncopators, now playing thru the West, is said to be an artist. Present bookings for this combination run well into the summer and it is not impossible that the tour will be carried into Hawaii and Australia. Director Art Gillham, formerly was with the Stasney Music Co.; Charlie Newman, violinist, was formerly featured at Jahnke's Tavern, Los Angeles. "Smiling" Billie Corthay is general manager of the aggregation.

April 1922

1920, Jan 2

Art appears in the census in the household of his father-in-law, William Canada, with Art's wife Louisa, age 18, in Fort Wayne, Indiana. His occupation is listed a musician in a publishing house. It shows his birthplace as Missouri.

1920, Jan 2-3

(Joseph Scott Middleton, age 26 born in Missouri, wife Evelyn and two children appear in the census of Chicago. His occupation is shown as salesman for a music house.)

1920, Jan 3 (Fred Brownold – Ted Browne, and wife Grace appear in the Chicago census. It shows him as born in Iowa, age 39, and as manager of a music publishing business.) 1920, Jan 6 (Billy Smythe and wife Edith with two children are in the census of Louisville. His occupation is shown as music publisher.) 1920, Jan 9 Art appears again in the 1920 census in the household of his father along with his mother and younger sister. His occupation is difficult to read but appears to be singer. Taverne 1920, Minneapolis, Mn: newspaper ad shows Art Moe Thompson Gillham's Society Syncopaters, "Frisco's famous jazz orchestra" playing at Ye Tavern. Art Gilham's Society Syncopators 1920, St. Louis, Mo. With Buck & Lowney Music Publishers. First son, Hal Gillham, born. 1920, April 13 1920, Aug 20 (First regular licensed radio broadcast.) Orchestra Work - 1920 1921, Sheet Music: Just Forget, Billy Smythe & Art Gillham, Billy Smythe Music (assigned to DeSylva, Brown & Henderson Music in 1930.). 1921, Cleveland, OH. managed the music department at Kresge.

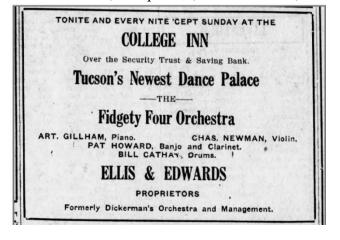
Gillham, piano; Ted Busch and Harold Cothral, saxophones; Fred Roembke,

banjo; Duke McGirk, drums

Decatur, IN:

1921, May 14

Art



Society Syncopators plays for a dance at the Masonic Hall:





1921, July 7 St. Louis, MO George Gillham dies of pneumonia. He as shown as a railroad coach builder.



1921, December 24 Indiana. Art's son Lon C. Gillham born.

Early Radio - Piano Rolls 1922

1922,

Chicago: became part owner with Ted Browne and Charles Harrison, named sales manager for sheet music publisher Ted Browne Music Co; was on the road most of the time plugging for Ted Browne songs. Toured on the Keith circuit traveling around the country playing Ted Browne songs, playing on radio stations in each city visited. Ted Browne said Art demonstrated songs in dime stores and promoted songs via radio and accompanied Ted Browne "singers in various large picture houses." He played piano and did harmony work "with some of our singing artists in large theatres throughout the country; and we paid the salaries for all our singers and pianists who worked in radio, theatres and at music stores."

Second son, Hal Gillham born.

1922,

1922, probably

piano roll released: Supertone 4062 *Let Me Call You Sweetheart*, published by Harold Rossiter



1922, Dec.

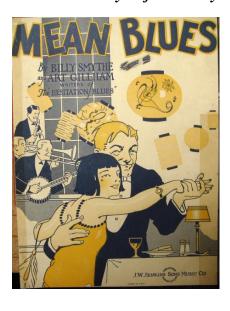
Chicago: started broadcasting on radio at Drake Hotel, WDAP. WDAP began broadcasting in May, 1922 and it was changed to WGN in June, 1924.

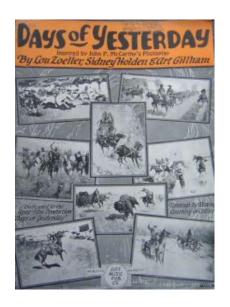
1923

1923, Sheet Music: Mean Blues, Billy Smythe & Art Gillham; published by J.W.

Jenkins Music.

1923 Sheet Music: *Days Of Yesterday*





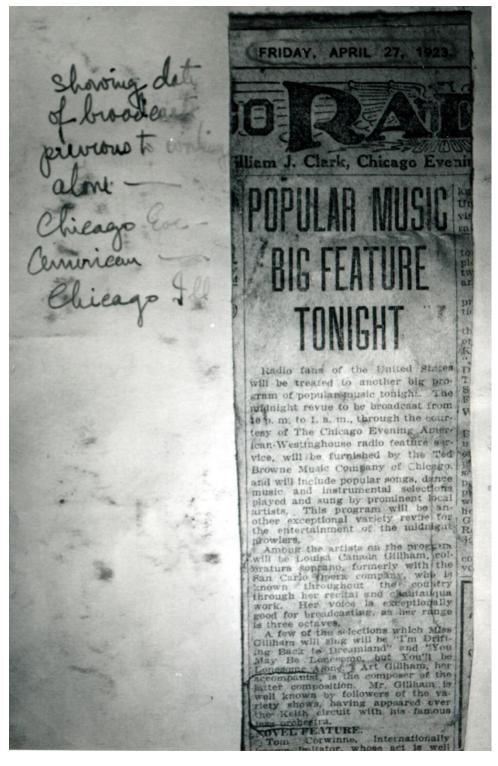
1923, March 16 Louisville: WHAS



1923, April 27

Chicago Evening American, radio page, announces evening broadcast over the Evening-American Westinghouse station program of popular music furnished by Ted Browne Music Company with Arts wife, Louisa Canada Gillham, coloratura soprano, formerly with the San Carlo Opera Co accompanied by Art Gillham who has appeared over the Keith Circuit with his orchestra. Radio stations

liked to present song pluggers because they were paid by the publishing house they represented.



1923, May 6

first tour of radio stations. WDAF, Kansas City. Sang He May Be Your Man and Hot Blues. First mention of him singing solo.

VARIETY IN MUSICAL MATINEE.

Leo R. Davis Orchestra Was Assisted by Soloists.

The Leo R. Davis orchestra gave the musical matinee broadcast yesterday from W D A F. The orchestra was as-sisted by-Lewis Ferris, solist, and Art

Gillham, pianist.

Entertaining numbers on the program were "Flower of Araby" and "It's Half Past Kissing Time." Both were bright and added a touch of color to the concert. Others were "Jimbo Jambo," "You Tell Her, I Stutter" and "That Red Head Gal."

Mr. Davis played "My Buddy" as a "Ted" Williams accomviolin solo. panied him.

"Memory's Garden" and "I'm Drifting Back to Dreamland" were sung by Mr. Ferris. He also did "Hello, Dearie, Hello," and "If You Want to Linger Longer."

Mr. Gillham sang two of his own compositions: "He May Be Your Man," and "Hot Blues," the latter number, a pleasing "blue" melody. Mr. Gillham also played the accompaniments for Mr. Ferris's numbers.

The orchestra: Leo R. Davis, violin; Ted Williams, piano; James Nordberg, saxophone; Paul Bell, drums.

1923. May 27

St. Louis: Missouri Theater

can and Canadian cities, Larry Semon presents his latest, "A Midnight Cabaret." George Givot and Art Gillham, singers, are also on the bill.

1923. June

piano rolls released:

Columbia 600 I'm Drifting Back To I

(a Ted Browne song)

Cecile 600 I'm Drifting Back to Dreamland

Supertone 5315 I'm Drifting Back

To Dreamland

1923, June 30

Terre Haute, In: at the American Theatre, shown as accompanist to Delores Valesco, the stage name of Art's wife.



1923, Aug. 15 Detroit: *Detroit Free Press* shows the act of Girot and Gillham playing at the Broadway Strand Theatre. Art was teamed with baritone George Givot. The news article reports Art has made many piano rolls.



1923, Sept.

Piano rolls released:

Columbia 658 My Sweetie Went Away, published by Waterson, Berlin & Snyder

Supertone 5346 My Sweetie Went Away

1923, Sept 11, 12 Pittsburgh: KDKA



1923, Sept 14

Fort Wayne, IN: Divorce granted to Louisa Gillham. She retains custody of their two chil dren. He is to pay \$10.00





"We attribute the success of 'Drift-ing Back to Dreamland,' our latest song hit, largely to radio," was the statement made by Art Gillham, song writer and recording planist, who en-tertained last evening from the Pitts-burgh Post studio of KDKA, and who has sung and played for most of the big broadcasters, including KYW.

has sung and played for most of the big broadcasters, including KYW, WDAP, WDAF, etc.

Mr. Gillham, who, by the way, is the sales representative of the Ted Browne Music Company, Chicago, gave us some interesting dope on how many song writers and publishers now feel about music and radio broadcasting.

reel about music and radio broadcasting.

"We figure this way," said Mr. Gillham. "The radio fan hears a new song from several broadcasters. Even though he may not be musically inclined, and seldom buys sheet music or records, repetition of that song, if it is really good, will prevent his forgetting it, and sooner or later he will mention it to some friend, who is often interested in music. It is this word of mouth advertising that is so valuable. I believe that radio broadcasting of any song of merit is one of the quickest ways to popularize a song. I think we can trace most of the success of "Siow Joe," "Rod Hot Blues," and "Drifting Back to Dreamland" to the fact that they were repeatedly broadcast. This is particularly true of the last named hit, which was put over in 16 days."

Mr. Gillham, who believe to company

cast. This is particularly true of the last named hit, which was put over in 10 days."

Mr. Gillham, who beloed to compose the three song hits mentioned, as well as many others, is an ardent radio fan and a firm believer in the future of radio broadcasting. He particularly likes the programs of KDKA and showed much interest in the equipment used in remote control broadcasting from the Post studio. His style of entertainment, which is unique in that he announces his own numbers, and his technique as a pianist, are seldom seen in the field of radio broadcasting. His touch on the piano keys is so light that the microphone may be placed directly on the sounding board of the piano, which helps wenderfully in picking up certain notes on the piano, one instrument very difficult to broadcast faithfully.

1923, Oct 1 Philadelphia: WDAR



1923, Oct 15: New York: WJZ.

1923, Nov 25-30 Kansas City Liberty Theater Radio Broadcasting Revue sings Mean Blues, I'm Drifting Back To Dreamland, Sunshine of Mine and Slow Joe





1923, Dec.

piano roll released:

Supertone 5382 *Sunshine of Mine*, published by Ted Browne.

1923, Dec

Chicago: He was accompanying singers at the WDAP and was dared to sing and "whispered" one of his own songs as he played. The response of the listening audience encouraged him to continue.

1923, probably recorded piano rolls:

Supertone 5315 *I'm Drifting Back To Dreamland*, published by Ted Browne
Supertone 5533 *Let Me Call You Sweetheart*

Vocalstyle 10607 Missouri Waltz., published by Forster Music.

Columbia 739 Sunshine of Mine, published by Ted Browne

1923,

reported to have made several piano rolls. Following is a list of known piano rolls with unknown dates. It is believed most were made between 1922 and 1925: The Ampico rolls were reported by a collector, but there has been no verification. *How Do You Do* was a Ted Browne song Art promoted. *Whispering* became his theme song on radio. *I'd Rather Be Alone* is a Smythe-Gillham song.

Ampico 5891 I'd Rather Be Alone

Ampico 6321 Make Believe

Ampico 6699 12th Street Rag

Ampico 6772 Whispering

Ampico 7361 Close Your Eyes

Ampico 7637 How Do You Do

American ----- Let Me Call You Sweetheart

Capital 1094 Let Me Call You Sweetheart

The Deacon Told Me I Was Good (Part of a 10 tune nickelodeon roll

Staffnote 241W Red Hot Blues

Vocalstyle ---- Lonely

1923, Nov 30 Kansas City MO. Sings Mean Blues, Sunshine of Mine

and I'm Drifting Back to Dreamland at Liberty Theater

WHISPERING PIANIST

Radio - Records - Piano Rolls - Songwriter 1924

1924, Sheet Music: *Words Of Love*, Billy Smythe & Art Gillham, Will Rossiter

Music.

Sheet Music: You May Be Lonesome, Billy Smythe & Art Gillham, Ted

Browne Music



Sheet Music: The Deacon Told Me I Was Good, Billy Smythe & Art Gill-

ham, Harold Rossiter Music

Sheet Music: Anytime You Need A Little Lovin', Billy Smythe & Art

Gillham, Joe Morris Music

1924, Jan 22 **Days of Yesterday** recorded by Elliott Shaw on Victor 19268.

1924, Feb. piano rolls released:

Columbia 785 So This Is Venice

Columbia 787 *London Bridge Is Falling Down On The Isle Of Child-hood Dreams*, published by Harold Rossiter.

Columbia 789 Land Of Broken Dreams

Columbia 790 Mean Blues

Supertone 5390 London Bridge

Supertone 5392 So This Is Venice

Vocalstyle ----- Sunshine Of Mine

1924, Feb. 21-23 Atlanta: at WSB, Art was given the name "The Whispering Pianist" by Lambdin Kay in the *Atlanta Journal*. The description under Art's photo describes him as songwriter, phonograph and player-piano star and national radio entertainer and

sales manager of Ted Browne Music Company. Information to verify that he made phonograph records before May 2, 1924 has not been found. shows he was there along with Wendell Hall. The WSB listings do not name either, just showing "popular entertainment".

WSB—The Atlanta Journal, At-lanta, Ga., 429, 5 p. m.—Vick Myers' Melody ortra, news, markets. 8 to 9 p. m.—Methodist jubilee t Wesley Memorial church. 10:45 p. m.—Popular entertain-

Friday, Feb. 22, 1924

1924, Feb 24

Atlanta. Lamdin Kay designates Art as "Whispering Pianist"

In the Atlanta Journal.

WSB log

1924, Feb 26

Altoona, PA: WFBG not yet billed as Whispering Pianist

1924, March

piano roll released:

WSB log

Columbia 800 *Ireland Is Heaven To Me*

1924, March 6

11:00-Special program present-Dallas, TX: WFAA ing Art Gillham of Chicago, composer and performer.

1924, March 16

Louisville: WHAS

1924. March 22

Music Trade Review:

Art Gillham to Record for Vocalstyle Rolls

Well-known Songwriter and Recording Pianist to Make Records of Popular Songs for Cincinnati Music Roll Concern

CINCINNATI. O., March 18.—The Vocalstyle Music Co. has made during the past week an announcement that Art Gillham, well known throughout this country as a songwriter and recording pianist, has been engaged to record for the Vocalstyle Music Co. Mr. Gillham has devoted his efforts exclusively to popular music and is a composer of unusual ability. He has an appealing method of singing his latest com-positions, as well as other songs and ballads, and his playing has afforded entertainment to

thousands throughout the United States.
Mr. Gillham, however, is of that school which is convinced that the broadcasting of new songs is the best method of gaining publicity for the sale of the songs in sheet music form or other-He has broadcasted from so many stations that he is exceptionally well known and his popularity with the radio fans enhances the value of his music rolls for the retail dealer. The Vocalstyle Music Co. has been extremely fortunate in securing Mr. Gillham's services



1924, March 23

Louisville. WHAS

1924, April

piano rolls released, Art's picture appears on the Vocalstyle list for April.

Vocalstyle ----- Back In Hackensack, N.J.

Vocalstyle 12786 *Mean Blues*

Vocalstyle 12798 Lost My Baby Blues

1924, April 6

Kansas City KA WDAF has appeared on 63 stations.

The Star's Nighthawk listeners last night heard an old familiar orchestra broadcast from new surroundings.

Louis Forbstein's Royal Syncopators, playing for the midnight dancing at the Bellerive hotel, presented their second dance at the hotel by radio. The program included the many clever arrangements the syncopators have demon-strated before.

At the studio, Art Gillham, popular radio artist who has appeared at sixtythree stations in the last year played and sang several of his latest numbers.

41 1 21

1924, April 8

Kansas City WDAF on Nighthawks broadcast. First known use of "Whispering Pianist".

Tonight's program, beginning with dinner concert by Charles Marsh and his orchestra, from the William Penn hotel, will include selections by Art Gillham, radio's "whispering pianist," whose touch is so light and whose voice is so low that he can scarcely be heard in the studio, but whose entertainment registers perfectly over radio.

A MIDNIGHT RADIO DANCE. Stinson Group Plays for Star's Nighthawks. A dance program by the Ray Stinson Screnaders was broadcast for the Nighthawk listeners last night and early to-The nine musicians comprising the orchestra are part of the 12-piece orchestra that will play for the benefit dance given by British-Canadian war veterans at the Armory tonight. Mr. Stinson, director, was heard in several solos, violin and steel saw. The orchestra: Mr. Stinson, violin and director; Ed May, piano; Jack Lentz and Roy Morton, saxophones; Jack Ridings and W. N. Saari, trumphets; Ernest Simpson, banjo; Herman Deines, trombone; Earl Riley, drums, In addition, there were comedy songs by Art Gillham, recording piano and phonograph artist.

1924, May 2

issued (3 takes)

Richmond, IN: In 1961 Art recalled making 10 sides for Gennett. Gennett's books show 10 takes of four songs of his own compositions:

11848-B	Deacon Told Me I Was Good	not issued (3 takes)
11849-B	Mean Blues	not
11850-A	You May Be Lonesome	not issued (2
11851-A	Hesitation Blues	not issued

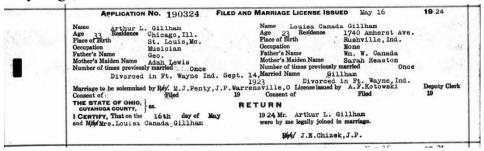
takes)

(2 takes)

No other artists recorded that day at Gennett.

1924, May 16

Cuyahoga, OH remarried Louisa Canada



1924, May 17

Dallas: WFAA

1924, May 24

Irene Beasley, a school teacher who moonlighted demonstrating songs in music stores, copyrighted her song "If I Could Just Stop Dreaming". On an unknown date shortly after, she approached Art Gillham asking him to sing the song on radio. Art agreed to present the song but only if she sang it. Art told her "If you can carry a tune at all, you can do your own advertising and it will be an asset to the song. Just make 'em like it." She sang it on WMC in Memphis then on stations in Chicago,

and became an accomplished singer on Victor records and theater appearances as "the long tall gal from Dixie", and "America's Famous Blues Exponent in Southern Syncopation". And and later as hostess of a musical quiz program, "Grand Slam". Beasley made her radio debut with Art Gillham. Art may have forgotten about it, as he made no mention of it in his publicity of the time or later.

1924, June Vocalstyle Roll Newsletter

About Vocalstyle Artists



ART GILLHAM Exclusive Vocalstyle Player-Roll Artist. Exclusive Columbia Record Artist. Composer and Song Writer. Nationally known as "THE WHISPERING PIANIST" of Radio. As "THE WHISPERING PIANIST," Mr.

As "THE WHISPERING PIANIST," Mr. Gillham started broadcasting about two year-ago in Chicago. He became popular almost over night. He was invited to other cities as a feature of radio programs and his vogue grew bigger and bigger until now he has become the chief drawing card on the programs of the principal broadcasting stations of the country.

Gilham is called "THE WHISDERING-PIANIST" because when broadcasting, he practically whispers into the microphone. It is almost impossible for people who are in the same room to hear him as he works. His voice carries perfectly thousands of miles and every one tunes in when Art is on the air. As his fingers ramble over the ivories, Gillham tells the story of his life; his struggle in transporting 375 pounds of superfluous flesh; his difficulties with his bald head; admits he can't sing; calls himself a broken down piano player trying to get by; says "Go to work, fingers" and starts in to whisper his own and other songs that have made him so popular. The truth is, Art is about the length of two yard sticks but a trifle wider and just a little heavier and is neither bald nor broken down. Those who listen in will attest to the last at least.

See the recent VOCALSTYLE Bulletins for his latest roll recordings.

DANDY! SNAPPY!

Here's a dandy, snappy window fixed up by V. J. Richardson, the hustling dealer of Charleroi, Pa. We sent him the display pictured in March Vocalstyle Notes.

He says the window increased his business 100 per cent, and that he is glad to be listed among the Vocalstyle boosters.



1924, June 5-8 Pittsburgh. WJAS at 8-9 pm with Scott Middleton.

Station WJAS Radio Program For Tonight

Broadcasting at 286 meters.)
7:30—Uncle Nuf Ced.
7:45—Baseball scores.
8 to 9—Art Gillham, the Whispering

Tonight's program, beginning with dinner concert by Charles Marsh and his orchestra, from the William Penn hotel, will include selections by Art Gillham, radio's "whispering pianist," whose touch is so light and whose voice is so low that he can scarcely be heard in the studio, but whose entertainment registers perfectly over radio.

Station WJAS Program. 8 p. m.—Eddie Squires, announcer of WHAG, Minneapolis, Minn. 8:20 p. m.—Schenley Danche orchestra, unsigs management of William Marshall; Albert Lhota, planist; Ben Fields, songster; Scotty Middleton, tenor; Art Hillham, whispering planist.

Program For Tonight (Broadcasting at 286 meters.) 7:30--Uncle Nuf Ced. 7:45--Baseball scores. 8 to 9--Art Gillham, the Whispering pianist. 9 to 10--The combined choir of St. George's Church, Allan avenue, Pittsburgh. Personnel: Andrew Bucher, Alexander

Station WJAS Radio

pianist.

9 to 10—The combined choir of St.
George's Church, Allan avenue, Pittsburgh,
Personnel: Andrew Bucher, Alexander
L. Felneigle, William H. Martin, F. J.
Rosenberger, Joseph Waterkotte, Christ
Koenig, Frank A. Windstein, William J.
Waterkotte, Henry Zahner, Jerome Claren,
C. F. Leny, William J. Weiland, Henry
Neuhausler, William Mueller and Ed Feinagle. This program is under the direction
of Miss Mathilda Ott.

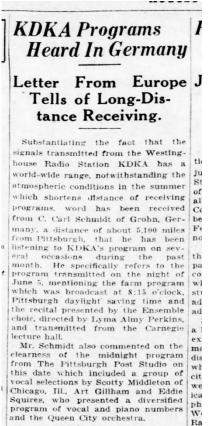


ART GILLHAM

The educational and instructive features of the radio program to be broadcast from The Pittsburgh Post Studio of the Westinghouse Radio Station KDKA, will be interspersed with a 15 minute period of entertainment given by Art Gillham, the Whfspering Pianist, who is Nationally known to radio enthusiasts and who has appeared at more than 66 radio stations throughout the country. On this occasion, he will sing and play "You May Be Lonesome," "Back in Hackensack, N. J.," "Sweet Little Rose" and "Sunshine of Mine,"

1924, August 1

Pittsburgh: KDKA, Art and Scott Middleton together.



Art Gillham at WJAS, Pickering Studio, Tonight



Sixty snappy minutes of Art Gilling as 300 telegrams in a single evening of Gilling studio, Station WJAS. "You May Be Lonesome" (the title of one of Gilling source) but not while listening to the "Whispering Pianta".

The tall, lean, hanky radio artist is a whole show in himself, with his marvelous tickling of the ivortes, his running fire of brilliant chatter and his unique Gilling mesque method of putting over clever songs. Gilling is probably the most popular radio entertainer in the country. He has broadcast from 66 radio stations and hasn't worn out a welcome yet. His tremendous favor with radio fans is evidenced by nearly fifty thousand in Hackensack," "Sweetest Little Rose" and "Sunshine of Mine."

1924, August 3

Kansas City has been heard from 69 stations. On WDAF he sang How Do You Do, Carolina Blues, and Hackensack.

1924, July

piano roll issued:

Vocalstyle ---- Sweetest Little Rose In Tennessee

1924, Aug 1

Pittsburgh

and transmitted from the Carnegie lecture hall.

Mr. Schmidt also commented on the Mr. Schmidt also commented on the clearness of the midnight program from The Pittsburgh Post Studio on this date which included a group of vocal selections by Scotty Middleton of Chicago, Ill., Art Gillham and Eddie Squires, who presented a diversified program of vocal and piano numbers and the Queen City orchestra.

1924, Sept.

piano roll released:

Columbia 946 How Do You Do

Columbia 947 Carolina Blues

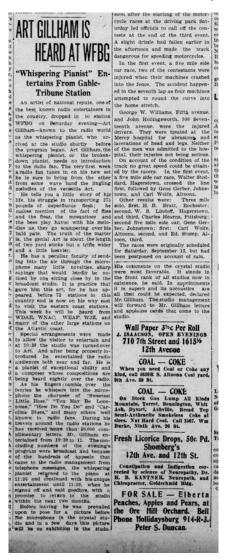
Supertone 5469 How Do You Do

1924, Sept 11-12

Louisville WHAS playing his own compositions



1924, Sept 22-3 Altoona, PA: WFBG and Varsity Club.



the the distance of the distan

ard Lanin, director. Robert Frazer, blind boy singer, who will be at Dumont's the week of October 27. Frank Bannister, well-known composer, vaude ville artist and originator of Radio Reviews in his own original popular song medley. Carl Zoehrns and Lew Herscher. Hendricks and Elaini, in a Hawaiian musical novelty act. Esther Cohen, soprano, with Frances Linnett, accompanying. Artie Bitong, the "Song and Dance Man." Will Lawrence, the blackface comedian and other features. Art Gillham, song writer, recording artist, nationally known as "The Whispering Pianiste," of Radio.

1924, Oct. 2

New York: In a letter dated May 24, 1957, to Jim Walsh for a *Hobbies Magazine* article, Art wrote: "When I went into New York with recording on my mind, after making about 50 radio stations around the country as a traveling radio artist, I sent a telegram to each recording manager of the various New York companies, telling them I was on WJZ for one week at noon and at 9 o'clock at night, and as I had a radio following throughout the country they should be interested in my record sales, if I made records. The only companies that responded to the telegrams were Pathe, then Okeh, then Columbia - so I made records."

```
WJZ-NEW YORK-455

10:00 a. m.—Housewives League Menu.
Mrs. Jul'n Heath.

10:20—"The Progress of the World."

10:30—"Jewelry of Yesterday and Today," Mrs. Capitola Ashworth.

10:50—Eleanor Gunn's Fashion talk.

1:00 p. m.—Nathan Abas' orchestra.

4:00—J. Charles Kunz, planist.

4:30—Larry Funk's orchestra.

4:50—Art Gillham. "Whispering Pianist."

5:10—Larry Funk's orchestra.
```

Ted Browne, in a letter, said "While working for us in 1924, he went into New York to promote our radio song How Do You Do Everybody and at that time signed to record for Columbia Records with recording manager Arthur Burgh." (Arthur Berg was with Okeh. Frank Walker was Columbia's man.)

1924, Oct.

New York: was contacted by Herman Rose of Pathe Records and made two released records for Pathe, one of his own compositions and one being plugged for Ted Browne Music, issued on Pathe, Perfect, Apex, Ajax and Starr Gennett. Art believed he had made 4 recordings for Pathe, but no evidence of other Pathe recordings has appeared.

105600-A-B The Deacon Told Me I Was Good

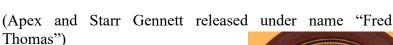
(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)

Pathe 032096

Perfect 12175

Apex 680

Starr Gennett 680.



105602-B *How Do You Do*

(Fleming - Harrison - deVoll)

Pathe 032087

Pathe 10799

Perfect 12166

Ajax 17084

Apex 679

Starr Gennett 679;

(Ajax, Apex and Starr Gennett released under name "Fred Thomas")

New York: was contacted by Arthur Berg of Okeh Records. No recordings are known to have been made for Okeh, though Art believed he made 6 recordings for Okeh at this time. He later made two anonymous recordings for Okeh with Billy

Hayes Orchestra, possibly a Sam Lanin group.

New York: WJZ 7:25 pm

1924, Oct. 22 New York: was contacted by Frank Walker of Columbia Records. Art signed a contract as an Exclusive Artist and made two records for Columbia. Art credited Frank Walker for his advice during his career with Columbia.

140113-1 Way Out West In Kansas (2 takes) (acoustic)

(Carson Robison)

Col 238-D

1924, Oct.

1924, Oct 8

140114-3 *How Do You Do* (3 takes) (acoustic) (Fleming-Harrison-de Voll) Col 238-D





Two days later, Columbia experimented with electrical recording on masters 140117 and 140118 by Paul Specht and His Hotel Alamac Orchestra. These electrical recordings were rejected with no comment. Columbia's next electrical recording session was of Art Gillham on February 25, 1925, which resulted in the first recorded issued Western Electric recordings.

Columbia had been forced into receivership in October, 1923. In December1923 Columbia promoted its "New Process" record method which greatly reduced the surface noise and made Columbia the superior record product. The new records had a "Flag" label and a new series numbering with the "D" (Domestic) series

replacing the previous Blue label "A" series.

New York: article in *Phonograph And Talking Machine Weekly*, p 30, reports Art has signed with Columbia as an Exclusive Artist and his first two Records were to be released shortly; notes has appeared on 72 radio stations.



1924, Nov.

Art Gillham to Record
Art Gillham, sales manager for the Ted
Browne Music Co., Inc., 218 South Wabash
avenue, has just signed a contract with the
Columbia Phonograph Co., Inc., to record
twenty-four numbers a year. The publications
of this house have won a great deal of favor.



Talking Machine World

1924, Nov 4

New York: on the *Eveready Hour*, the first commercially sponsored 18 station "hookup" with Will Rogers on election night when Calvin Coolidge was elected. The pro-gram was sponsored by National Carbon Company, makers of Eveready Batteries. Others on the broadcast were Wendell Hall, who was the regular host of the Eveready Hour, Carson Robison, The Eveready Quartet, and the Waldorf-Astoria Dance Orchestra led by Joseph Knecht. A photograph was taken of the event. Joseph Knecht is not in the photo, but Ben Posner, violinist shown standing by the microphone, may have led the orchestra that night. Graham McNamee provided the election returns and commentary. Art appears to have been a last minute addition to the program as he is not mentioned in the New York Times ad for the program. The Eveready Hour began on WEAF on December 4, 1923 and

was radio's first major variety show.

(Copyright 1924 by United Press) WEAF, New York Washington 435, WCAE Pittsburgh Roston WEEL WWJ Buffalo 319, WCC Davenport, 484 and WC Minneapolis—St. Paul 411—7 M. to 1 A. M. Eastern—Un Press election returns, read Eastern-United musical Graham McNames with program including Will Rogers, Wendell Hall, Carlson Everready quartette and Waldorf Astoria orchestra.

Election Returns by Radio!

1924, Nov 6

New York: made two recordings for Columbia:

140123-1-2-3 The Deacon Told Me I Was Good (acoustic)

(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)

not issued (resumed on January 20, 1925)

140125-1-2-3 You May Be Lonesome (acoustic)

(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)

not issued (resumed on January 20, 1925)

1924, Dec

The first known release of an Art Gillham record: Pathe 032087 How Do You Do.

Chicago: shown in 1924 catalog of Columbia Player Rolls:

600 I'm Drifting Back To Dreamland; (a Ted Browne song)

658 My Sweetie Went Away;

So This Is Venice;

787 London Bridge Is Falling Down (On The Isle of Childhood Dreams);

789 The Land Of Broken Dreams;

790 Mean Blues:

800 Ireland Is Heaven To Me

1924,

COLUMBIA MUSIC ROLLS April 1924

SYNCHRONIZED	WORD	ROLLS

	TITLE:	PLAYED BY	
840	Tell Me You'll Forgive Me	Harry Geise	Waltz
839	Boy Scouts Parade	March-	One-step
SIS	Nine O'Clock Sal	Harry Geise	One-step
536	Lost My Baby Blues	Harry Geise Blue	Fox-trot
835	Maybe She'll Write Mc-She'll	Phone Me	
		Billy Fitch	Fox-trot
834	You Can Take Me Away from D	ixie Harry Geise	Fox-trot
833	Sad Hawaiian Sea Claren	ice Johnson Marim	ba Waltz
831	My Dream Moon	Harry Geise	Fox-trot
830	California, Here I Come	Clarence Johnson	Fox-trot
829	Kentucky Sure As You're Born	Billy Fitch	Fox-trot
828	Hoo Doo Blues	Harry Geise	Blue
827	Twelve O'Clock at Night	Clarence Johnson	Fox-trot
826	Hawaiian Memories	Billy Fitch Marim	
825	Until Tomorrow	Clarence Johnson	Waltz
824	Nobody's Sweetheart	Harry Geise	One-step
823	Immigration Rose	Everett Robbins	Fox-trot
822	Land of My Sunset Dreams	Harry Geise	Waltz
821	Steppin' Out	Clarence Johnson	Fox-trot
820	Egyptian Rose	Everett Robbins	Fox-trot
819	Twilight Rose	Harry Geise	Fox-trot
818	Eileen	Clarence Johnson	Fox-trot
817	I'm Goin' South		Fox-trot
816	Blue Island Blues	Clarence Johnson	Blue
815	When Mother Sings Sweet and I	Low James Blythe	Fox-trot
814	When Irish Eyes are Smiling No	ell Morrison Marim	
813	Waiting for the Rainbow	Edwin Schmidt	Fox-trot
812	**************************************		oa March
811		Hawaiian Marim	ba Waitz
810	1 Wonder Who's Dancing With		
		James Blythe	Fox-trot
809	Mean Papa, Turn in Your Key	Harry Geise	Fox-trot
808	Brother You've Got Me Wrong	Harry Geise	Fox-trot Fox-trot
807	Home in l'asadena	Nell Morrison James Blythe	Fox-trot
808	Our Little Home	Harry Geise	Biue
805	31st Street Blues	James Blythe	Fox-trot
804	I'm All Broken Up Over You	Harry Geise	Fox-trot
803	The One I Love	Harry Geise	Waltz
801	Lonely Lane	Art Gillham	Ballad
800	Ireland is Heaven to Me	Harry Geise	Waltz
799	My Dream Sweetheart	Nell Morrison	Fox-trot
798	Watching the Moon Rise	Harry Geise	Blue
797	Light House Blues	Nell Morrison	Waltz
796	Arizona Stars You Can't Make a Fool Out of		Waltz
795		Harry Geise	Fox-trot
794	Your Mamma's Gonna Slow You		2 01
793	Your Mamma's Gonna Slow You	Clarence Johnson	Fox-trot
		Billy Fitch	Waltz
792	When Lights Are Low "The House of David" Blues	Clarence Johnson	Blue
791	"The House of David" Blues	Art Gillham	

						The Land of Broken Dreams	Art Gillham	Waltz Fox-trot
	COLUMBIA MU	SIC ROLL	.5			Every Day	Gladys Bagwill	rox-trot
April 1924		787	London Bridge is Falling Down Childhood Dreams)	Art Gillham	Waltz			
					786	How I Miss You, No One Know		Waltz
	SYNCHRONIZED W					So This is Venice	Art Gillham	
	TITLE:	PLAYED BY	***- **-			Hard Luck Blues	Everett Robbins	Blue
-40	Tell Me You'll Forgive Me	Harry Geise	Waltz		783	It's Not the First Time You Lef		27.0
39	Boy Scouts Parade		One-step		783	Last Time You'll Come Back)		Fox-trot
23.5	Nine O'Clock Sal	Harry Geise					Everett Robbins	
36	Lost My Baby Blues	Harry Geise Blue	Fox-trot			Maggie (Yes Ma'am)	James Blythe	Waltz
N:15	Maybe She'll Write Me-She'll				781	Tripping Along		Walte
		Billy Fitch			780	A smile Will Go a Long, Long		Flore Arrest
834	You Can Take Me Away from I						Everett Robbins	
833		nce Johnson Marim					Drobegg Marimba	
831	My Dream Moon	Harry Geise			778	Midnight Blues	Clarence Johnson	Blue
830	California, Here I Come	Clarence Johnson			777	Just For Tonight	Gus Drobegg	Waltz
829	Kentucky Sure As You're Born				776	If I Can't Get the Sweetle I Wa		
828	Hoo Doo Blues	Harry Geise	Blue			Sweetle I Get)	Ciarence Johnson	Fox-trot
827	Twelve O'Clock at Night	Clarence Johnson			775	You Didn't Want Me When I W	anted You	
826	Hawaiian Memories	Billy Fitch Marin					Gus Drobegg	Waltz
825	Until Tomorrow	Clarence Johnson	Waltz		774	What Do You Do Sunday, Mary	Billy Fitch	Fox-trot
824	Nobody's Sweetheart	Harry Geise	One-step		773	Keep Yourself Together, Sweet		
823	Immigration Rose	Everett Robbins	Fox-trot				Clarence Johnson	
822	Land of My Sunset Dreams	Harry Geise	Waltz		772	So This is Love	Billy Fitch	Waltz
821	Steppin' Out	Clarence Johnson	Fox-trot		771	Old Fashioned Love	Clarence Johnson	Fox-trot
820	Egyptian Rose	Everett Robbins	Fox-trot		770	When It's Night-Time in Italy	Everett Robbins	Fox-trot
819	Twilight Rose	Harry Geise	Fox-trot		769	Low Down Papa	Clarence Johnson	Fox-trot
818	Eileen	Clarence Johnson			768	Sleep	Nell Morrison	Wiiltz
817	I'm Goin' South		Fox-trot		767	Lonesome Cinderella	Everett Robbins	Fox-trot
816	Blue Island Blues	Clarence Johnson	Blue		766	The West, a Nest and You N	ell Morrison Marin	
815	When Mother Sings Sweet and				765	Aready (Al Jolson's Hit Sensa		
814	When Irish Eyes are Smiling N	all Morrison Marim	ba Waitz			Artialy (Ar Bonson's Int Sense	Florence Sanger	Fox-trot
		Edwin Schmidt			704	You Darling, You	Nell Morrison	
813	Waiting for the Rainbow	nce Johnson Marim				I'm Sittin' Pretty In a Pretty		
812		n Hawalian Marin	be Walte		.01	I'm sittin Fretty in a Fretty	James Blythe	Fox-trot
811			Da Warea		700	Linger Awhite	Paul Jones	Fox-trot
810	1 Wonder Who's Dancing With	James Blythe	For trot		759	The Waltz of Long Ago	Clarence Johnson	Waltz
					757	Mamma Loves Papa, Papa Lov		
809	Mean Papa, Turn in Your Key	Harry Geise			757	Mamma Loves Papa, Papa Lov	James Biythe	Fox-trot
808	Brother You've Got Me Wrong	Harry Geise					Clarence Johnson	
807	Home in Pasadena	Nell Morrison				Roses of Picardy	Clarence Johnson	-
806	Our Little Home	James Blythe	Fox-trot		754	I've Got a Cross-Eyed Papa		Waltz
805	31st Street Blues	Harry Geise	Biue		753	Bring Back That Old Fashioned	Waltz Bitty Fitten	
804	I'm All Broken Up Over You	James Blythe			752	More	Clarence Johnson	
803	The One I Love	Harry Geise			751		Billy Fitch Orienta	
801	Lonely Lane	Harry Geise	Waltz		750		ace Johnson Marimb	
800	Ireland is Heaven to Me	Art Gillham	Ballad		745	Take, Oh Take Those Lips Awa		
799	My Dream Sweetheart	Harry Geise	Waltz		744	Sittin' in a Corner	Paul Jones	
798	Watching the Moon Rise	Nell Morrison	Fox-trot		743	Brokenhearted Melody	Nell Morrison	
797	Light House Blues	Harry Geise	. Blue		742	Out There in the Sunshine Wit		Waltz
796	Arizona Stars	Nell Morrison	Waltz		739	Sunshine of Mine (I Call You S		
795	You Can't Make a Fool Out of		Waltz			A	rt Gillham Marimb	a Fox-trot
	It Ain't Gonna Rain No Mo'	Harry Geise			738	Mama Goes Where Papa Goes	(Or Papa	
794	Your Mamma's Gonna Slow You					Don't Go Out Tonight)	James Blythe	Fox-trot
793	Tour Mamma's Gonna Slow 16	Clarence Johnson	Fox-trot		736	Lou'siana	Wayne Love	Fox-trot
		Billy Fitch	Waltz		734		Paul Jones Mari	mba Waltz
792	When Lights Are Low	Clarence Johnson	Blue			Rio Nights	Wayne Love Mari	
791	"The House of David" Blues		Blue		720	That Old Gang of Mine	Wayne Love	
790	Mean Blues	Art Gillham	Dide		100	Anna Old Gang VI Mine		

1925

First Electrical Recordings

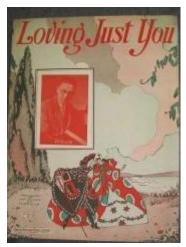
1925 Sheet Music: *Loving Just You*, Elmer Olsen & Art Gillham, H Rossiter Music.

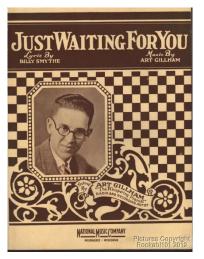
Sheet Music: Second Hand Love, Billy Smythe & Art Gillham, Irving Berlin

Music.

Sheet Music: Just Waiting For You. Billy Smythe & Art Gillham, National Music

Co.





the waltz hit of the year on Columbia Record 235 D

YOU may have been thrilled by the music of "All Alone," but you have another thrill genning. When the columbia Record of "All Alone," but you have another thrill genning. When the Cavaliers play it with exquisite effects, and on the other Lewis James is at his best as the sings this plaintee melody. New pleasure will be young every time you play this Columbia Record of "All Alone."

Hear these new records at the mearest Columbia Record of "All Alone."

Gaits General Columbia Deciders

Gaits General Columbia Deciders

Gaits General Columbia Columbia Record of "All Alone."

How the Walt Pentener of Sale.

Familiers.

When the Mark Pentener of Sale.

Hear De You De?

Way Odd West in Kansas. The Williers The Colling Pentent (Art Gilliams). See The

Art Gillham, the Columbia artist, known as

"the whispering planist," made Kansas City a visit last week and, singing for WDAF, the

Kansas City Star's radio station, featured his first recording on a Columbia record, "Way Out

West in Kansas" and "How Do You Do." Demonstrating the value of the radio as an aid to phonograph record sales, the next day orders for the record from radio fans began pouring in,

which was the prelude to a clean up.

1925, about Jan piano roll released:

Supertone 5533 Let Me Call You Sweetheart

1925, Jan Record released: Pathe 032096, *The Deacon Told Me I Was Good*.

1925, Jan Record released Columbia 238-D *How Do You Do*

1925, Jan. Saturday Evening Post ad for Columbia Records includes Art's photo though his

first Columbia Record has not been released.

1925, Jan. Columbia begins electrical test

recording with Art Gillham

1925, Jan Kansas City: WDAF

1925, Jan 1 First Columbia ad including Art Gillham.

1925, Jan. 20 Chicago: made three recordings for Columbia

140123-5 The Deacon Told Me I Was Good (acoustic)

(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham) (2 takes)

Col 297-D (resumed from November 6, 1924)

140125-4-5-6 You May Be Lonesome (acoustic)

(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)

Not issued (resumed from Nov 6, 1924; resume

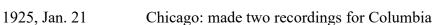
on Feb 25, 1925 as the first electrical recording)

140270-1 *Carolina Blues* (acoustic)

140270-2 Carolina Blues (acoustic)

(Grant-Harrison) (a Ted Browne song)

Col 297-D



140274-1-2 **Second Hand Love** (acoustic)

(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)

not issued (resumes on February 25, 1925 as electrical)

140275-1-2 **Doo Wacka Doo**

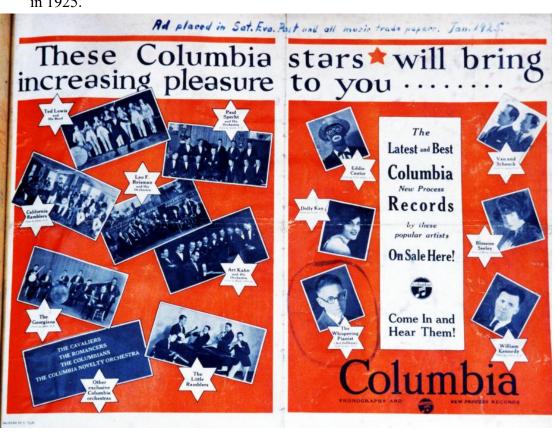
(Gaskill-Donaldson-Horther) (a Ted Browne song)

not issued

1925, Jan.

Art appears in his first Columbia Records ad. The two page ad in Saturday Evening Post featured several artists and orchestras. The date of the issue has not been determined. It appears in Art's scrapbook with just "Jan 1925". Saturday Evening Post was a weekly publication with dates of January 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 in 1925.







1925, Feb

St Louis:

Art Gillham, the "Whispering Pianist," exclusive Columbia and radio artist, was a recent visitor to the St. Louis office of the Columbia Distributors and broadcast from Stix, Baer &

1925, Feb

First Columbia Art Gillham record released: Col 238-D.

1925, Feb.

piano roll released:

Vocalstyle 13124 How Do You Do

1925, Feb 1

Louisville: WHAS last week. Also Billy Smythe.

ARTIST TO GIVE RADIO PROGRAM

Whispering Pianist Broadcasts From Mercer Station

Art Gillham, known by thousands of radio fans throughout the country as the Whispering Planist, a nationally known som writer and composer as well as a Victrola record artist, will come to Macon Tuesday, where he will give a special program over WMAZ. Mercer broadcasting station, for the benefit of Macon and Georgia radio enthusiasts, officials of the station announce.

Mr. Gillham started broadcasting about two years ago in Chicago and has since given programs in practically all of the principal cities in the United States.

Mr. Gillam is called the Whispering Planist because he practically whispers into the microphone when he broadcasts, although making himself heard distinctly thousands of miles away.

The program will be one of his type.

neard distinctly thousands of miles away.

The program will be one of his typically popular concerts in which such songs as How Do You Do, Heart Broken Strain. Carolina Blues and a number of other popular ballads are being featured.

Last week WHAS was featured by selections by Art Gillham, the Whispering Pianist of Radio, Mr. Gillham is called the Whispering Pianist because while radiocasting, he practically whispers into the microphone, making it almost impossible for those in the room with him at the time to hear what he is Mr. Gillham was the recipient of over 65,000 applause letters last year from fans. He writes many of the songs he radiocasts. At present he is featuring "How Do You Do," "Heart Broken Strain," "Carolina Blues," "Sweetest Little Rose In Tennessee," "Old-Fashioned Rose," "You May Be Lonesome," and "Do You Ever Dream Of Me." Mr. Gillham will return in September for another engagement over W H A S. Mr. Gillham was the recipient of over gagement over WHAS.

Tenor solo and duet specialty numbers will feature the afternoon programmes to be radiocast this week. Buddy Ridsdale and Billy Smythe, song writers, will sing a number of their own compositions. Billy Smythe, one of WHAS favorites, is popularly known as the "Boy With the Blues." Buddy Ridsdale is a new WHAS artist.

You May Be Loneson

1925, Feb 8

Macon, GA WMAZ

1925, Feb 11

Louis Stterling arrives in New York to close the transaction between Columbia Records and Western Electric.

1925, Feb 25

New York: 6 recordings for Columbia, including the first issued recording made with the Western Electric system. Beginning with this date Columbia made only electrical recordings of Art Gillham. Two days later, Columbia began making

electrical recordings for all other artists.



(resumed from January 20, 192)

acoustic session)

(electric microphone) (2 takes)

(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)

Col 328-D

140274-3 **Second Hand Love** (electric) (2 takes)

(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)

Col 343-D (resumed from January 21, 1925

acoustic session)

140390-2 *Hesitation Blues* (2 takes)





(Billy Smythe - Scott Middleton - Art

Gillham) Col 343-D

140391-1-2 Heart Broken Strain

(Baskette - Waldron) (a Ted Browne song) not issued

140394-2 I Had Someone Else Before I Had You

(Stanley - Harris - Darcy) Col 328-D

Col 3748 E



140395-1 How's You're Folks And My Folks

(Cal de Voll - Dudley Mecum) Col 387-D Col 3855

Columbia attempted to make electrical recordings on October 24, 1924 in its New York studio with the Paul Specht And His Hotel Alamac Orchestra. Three takes were made of *Words* and four takes were made of *Oh Peter (You're So Nice)*. None of the takes were issued, being rejected with no comment as to reason. Apparently a recording system other than Western Electric's was used and found unsatisfactory. The recordings on February 25, 1925 were the next electrical recordings made by Columbia and did use the Western Electric system. Art said he was signed by Columbia for the express purpose of electrical recording because of his radio experience. Art's first recordings for Columbia were on October 24, February 25, 1925 acoustical 1924, but they were acoustic recordings. On recordings were made by the Clover Gardens Orchestra with Billy Jones, the only other recordings made that day.

Columbia 328-D was first issued on Columbia's "Flag" label. It did not have the "W" for Western Electric electrical recording pressed in the shellac. It was also issued on the Black label with the "W" and later on the Black label with the words "Electrical Recording". All of these issues are of the electrical recording take 7.

1925, Feb. 26

New York: made one electrical recording for Colu

140399-3 Can't Your Friend Get A Friend For Me

(Lou Handman - Harry Ruby)

Col 326-D

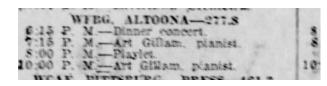
1925, Feb 26

Victor makes its first electrical recording, Miniature Concert., released in July.

11.45 a.m.—Art Gillam, the whispering planist, from crystal studio.
3.45 p. m.—Russel & Rigg music house.
4.15 p. m.—Art Giliam, the whispering planist, from crystal studio.
6.15 p. m.—Thompson dinner concert,
7.15 p. m.—Art Gillam and Mrs. Margaret Cadaret.
8 p. m.—Playette for the Pennsylvania Dental association from the Roosevelt High school. osevelt High school. 0.00 p. m.—Art Gillam, the whisper-10.00 p. m.—Art Gillam, the whisper-g planist, from the crystal studio. 10.30 p. m.—U. S. weather forecasts. Friday, February 27: 11.45 a. m.—Art Gillam, the whisper-ing planist. 3.45 p. m.—Elocution recital by pu-pils of Mrs. C. W. Montgomery. 4.30 p. m.—Art Gillam, the Whisper-ing planist. 6.15 p. m.—The Gable company pro-gram, 41st anniversary. 6.15 p. m., Harold Taylor and Miss Helen Taylor. 6.30 p. m.-Prize contest for two sets

1925, Feb 26-27 Altoona, PA: WFBG on several times a day.





1925, Feb. 27

New York: made one electrical recording for Columbia.

140404-3 Hot Tamale Molly (Ruby-Wells-Cooper) Col 326-D



recent visitor at the Cincinnati branch of

the Columbia Distributors was W. C. Fuhri, vice-president and general manager of that

company. Another visitor was Art Gillham, exclusive Columbia artist, who also is a great

favorite with radio fans.

Beginning with this date, Columbia began using the Western Electric system for most of its recording sessions for other artists as well as Art

Gillham.

1925, Feb 28

Cincinnati, visits Columbia

1925, Mar

Record released: Ajax 17034.

1925, Mar.

Columbia Records came under the control of Louis Sterling,

president of the Columbia Graphophone Company Ltd of London.

Columbia's use of Western Electric's electrical recording process was

a factor in Sterling talking control of the American company.

1925, Mar.

piano roll release:

Columbia 1054 Let Me Call You Sweetheart

Louis Sterling buys Columbia Phonograph Co for \$50.00 a share 1925, March 6

1926, March 6 Altoona, PA: WFBG called a monologist.

1926, March 7 Altoona, PA: WFBG Art sings and plays ore of songs and piano en-ment and his many friends unxious to hear him during y eyening concert. During ert Miss Alice May Thomp occupy a short period.

Immediately following concert a special concert, the princi-pal broadcast of the day, will be taken over by Art Gillham. Art was to er by Art Gillham. Art was to we been here last Friday, but owing illness his concert was postponed



ART GILLHAM

WFBG's regular "Happy Hour"
goes on tonight at 11.15 without any
interference. The "Happy Hour
Gang" will broadcast to their heart's
content the pleasing songs and melocitions that have made this 'midnight
broadcast from the Gable-Tribune station one of the most popular of the
32 concerts given each week.

The Majestic quintet, composed of
the following members, will occupy
the Crystal studio with Art Gillham,
the celebrated pianist and monologuist. The Quintet is composed of
Fay A. Keith, Joseph Wolfe, Verle
Householder, Calvin Wolfe and Earl
Keith.

Owing to the rain and the foggy misty weather the radio listener diphotograph, that was to have it taken yesterday afternoon has it postponed until next Thursday at p. m., the weather permitting, nouncements will be made thro the air next Thursday noon.

Today from WFBG, Art Gillam, the "Whispering Pianist" puts his only concert in the air at 11:45.

concert in the arr at 11:40.

At 12 o'clock a special test will be made and Mr. Gillam will sing and a Columbia Record he just finished making in New York will be placed in the air by the Brooks Music house. An interesting prize will be offered to the first one withing in telling which the first one writing in telling which is the record and which is the man. Fair and competent judges will be in

Columbia record - contest to tell which is which.

1925, March 9 Pittsburgh: KDKA 8:00 pm

1925, March 10 Pittsburgh: KDKA 11:00 pm

Miss Margaret, Berberick, who took the part of Quaker Maid in "One Little Maid" at the Alvin Theater, will appear at The Pittsburgh Post Studio and present a program of selections. The revue will be preceded by a group of numbers by Art Gillham, the famous "whispering pianist," and numbers in six languages by Mile. Goldye from The Post Studio. WHAT IS ON THE RADIO FOR TONIGHT

EDITAR PITTSBURGH.

6:15-Dinner concert by KDKA Little Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Victor Saudek.
7:15-Reports of the primary livestock and wholesale produce markets.
7:30-Daddy Winkum and his magical machine, Pittsburgh Post studio.
7:45-Mothers Pensions, Pittsburgh Post studio.
8:00-Art Gillham, "The Whispering Planist and Entertainer," Pittsburgh Post studio.

1925, Mar 15

Louisville. Billy Smythe and Scott Middleton performing:

925, Mar. 21

Music Trade Indicator, p 33 article: "Art Gillham Records
Deacon Told Me". Notes when he broadcasts in Chicago he
announces over the air that he will be glad to meet his radio
friends in person at So-and So's music store where his records
are on sale.

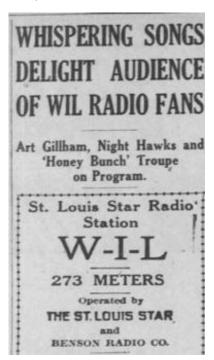
The Whispering Planist, Art Gillham, who makes Columbia records when he is not speaking soft and low to a microphone, repeated his performance of Wednesday night when St. Louis found his individual handling of the problem "How to broadcast differently," suited them to the well known T.

ART GILHAM RECORDS "DEACON TOLD ME"

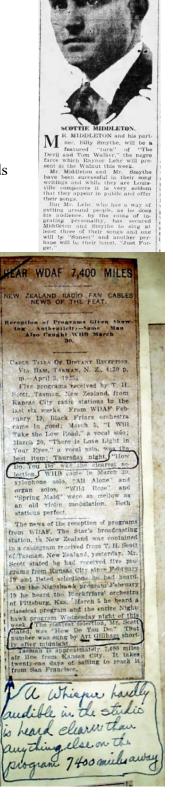
New York, March 20.—"The Deacon Told Me I Was Good," a song recorded for the Columbia Phonograph Co., Inc., by Art Gilham, "the whispering pianist," will be released for the trade this month.

Gilham, who is credited with having broadcast from every station of consequence in the country, is popular with the radio fans, and also with music dealers, with whom he personally cooperates in the sale of his records. His plan of operation is something like this: When he broadcasts in Chicago he announces over the air that he will be glad to meet his radio friends in person at So-and-So's music store, where his records are on sale. In his radio announcement he describes himself as weighing in the neighborhood of 400 pounds and being absolutely bald.

1925, March 25 St Louis: WIL







LOUISVILLE song writers to appear at Walnut this week.

1925, March 28

St Louis

1925, March 26

Kansas City MO WDAF broadcast from WDAF picked up in New Zealand. Clearest heard was Art Gillham playing *How Do You Do*, which was sung shortly after

midnight in Kansas City.

1925, April

piano roll issued:

Vocalstyle 13175

Carolina Blues (a Ted Browne song)

1925, April

Record released: Columbia 297-D.

1925, April 2

Omaha: KFAB

Columbia Distributors Busy Manager C. R. Salmon, of the Columbia Dis-tributors, reports that the portable business has opened up big and he expects to have a big portable season. Columbia Distributors are to job, in addition to the other portables that they now carry, the Regal and Pal portables.

Art Gillham, the Whispering Pianist, an exclusive Columbia artist, appeared at Nugent's in their phonograph and radio department recently and sang some of his well-known numbers. There was a large crowd and Nugent's sold a great quantity of Gillham's records,

Hear Art Gillham - "The Whispering Pianist" - in Person

which he autographed for the customers.

Sixth Floor Auditorium, 12:30-1:30 Today

Sixth Floor Auditorium, 12:30-

In addition to the various dance programs on Saturday there will be introduced a visiting guest. This is Art Gillham the famous whispering planist, who is a great radio favorite throughout the east. He is touring the country under the auspices of the Columbia Phonograph company and will be in Portland

Portland 1925, April 6

1925, April

1925, April 25

California: broadcasting various cities

Columbia signs definitive agreement

with Western Electric with a license

fee of \$50,000, plus royalties.

1925, April Everett, WA: "arrested"

Whispering Planist, Art Gillham, who makes Columbia records when he is not speaking soft and low to a microphone, repeated of Wednesday performance night when St. Louis found his individual handling of the problem to broadcast differently." suited them to the well known T.

Columbia Artist Will Broadcast On Buick Program

Ask any radio fan if he has heard the "whispering planist" and nine out of ten will answer "yes." He has worked at over one hundred radio stations and his real name is Art Gillham. As the "whispering planist, Mr. Gillham began broadcasting about two years ago in Chi tago. He became popular almost over night. He was invited to other cities as a feature of radio programs and his vogue grew bigger and bigger until now he has become the chief drawing card on the programs of the principal broadcasting stations of the country.

Gillham writes many of his songs and last year he radio from the east, Gillham to the programs and his vogue grew bigger and bigger until now he has become the chief drawing card on the programs of the principal broadcasting stations of the country.

Gillham writes many of his songs and last year he works and is real name is altered radio audience. He calls then tomers in his records and his is totally different from an ato accorded before. He is all ing at KFAB on Monday nig at the well worth the effort of a law enever heard him, to tune planist" because when he broadcasts he practically whispers into the microphone. It is almost impossible for people who are in the same room to hear him as he works. As his fingers ramble over the ivories, Gilham tells the story of his life—his struggle in transportation of the country.

Grand Summer Cruise July 1 to tune heart works, and starts in the baid head, admits he can't sing, calls himself a broken-down plano player trying to get by, says "Go to work fingers," and starts to whisper his own and broken-down plano player trying to get by, says "Go to work fingers," and starts to whisper his own and the same room to hear him as he works. As his fingers ramble over the first of the proposed plane Ask any radio fan if he has heard

other songs that have made him popular. The truth is, Art is about the length of two yard sticks, but a trifle wider and just a little heavier and is neither bald nor broken down.

Gillham writes many of his own songs and last year he received 65,000 letters from radio friends. While in the east, Gillham signed up with one of the big recording companies, (Columbia), as an exclusive artist and advance copies of his records show that Art is a huge success. He treats the phonograph public just as he treats his radio audience. He calls them customers in his records and his style is totally different from anything ever recorded before. He is appearing at KFAB on Monday night for a fifteen minute act and it should be well worth the effort of all who have never heard him, to tune in on next Monday.

Grand Summer Cruise July 1, 1925

Tie-up With Columbia Artists Columbia dealers are cashing in on the local appearances of Ted Lewis and His Orchestra. The records of these popular artists are in great demand and dealers are linking up with their personal appearances in every way. Maria Jeritza, Victor artist, sang here recently and immediately following her concert the increased demand for her recordings was noticeable. Columbia dealers are looking forward to the radio programs of Art Gillham, Columbia artist, who is scheduled to give a number of broadcasts at California stations during April. Increased record sales will undoubtedly be the

He used a portable organ at the airfield to get on the air in time. At Everett, Washington was "arrested" for "seal poaching" at the radio station, locked in a cell, and police made him play piano to be set free (his hand written notation in his "a publicity stunt"). Art had used an imaginary mascot cat called scrapbook: Pussy that had gotten killed by the Hoot Owls in Portland. As a "replacement", Art said he hauled a seal in a bathtub as his new mascot. He flew from Portland to Everett.







Listen in tonight on KPO m 9 to 10 o'clock. CHECKER CAB PRESENTS

for your entertainment—ART GILLHAM, the "Whispering Pianist," celebrated Columbia Record Artist, nationally known to all Radio Fans.

Art was rushed here for this program from Stockton by Checker Aerial Taxi.

Art knows, and the public, when you want the best in cab service, either surface or aertal, you just call Checker — Graystone 400.

Graystone 400

Whispering Piano Man Locked Up in Cell but Plays Way to Freedom

Art Gillham, well known Art Gillham, well known whispering plano artist, was "arrected" by Everett police last eveniny and put in the city jail.
Gillham, who is touring the country in the interest of his war are the country in the interest of his war are the light of the country in the interest of his war are the light of the country in the interest of his war are the light of the light of

work on records and rolls, was playing at Leese Brothers' broadcasting station when in walked Captain W. E. Craw, Patrolman John Stelk and Clarence De Mars.

A warrant for his arrest from the Chicago police department was said to have been received.

Gasping for what little breath he had left, the piano player could scarcely talk above a whisper. Gillham was escorted to the city

jail and locked up-but not all

After letting Gillham fret for After letting Gillham fret for a while, the officers unlocked the big iron gates and let him out.

"It's all a joke. Gillham, old foy." said Craw. "Now, if you will step into Bennett's and play us a few selections in your whispering way, we will turn you loose."

9:30 to 10 p. m.—Program by Art Gillham
"The Whispering Pianist," through courtesy
of the Checker Cab Company,
10 to 11 p. m.—Johnny Bulck's Cabbrians

arranged on West

1925, April 21-27

San Francisco KPO Checker

Cab Program 9:30 pm

Art Gillham Given Big Reception by Coast Trade

Whispering Pianist," Columbia Artist, Makes Trip From Los Angeles to Frisco in Taxi-plane—Addresses Columbia Dealers

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL, May 5.—Art Gilliams, known as the "Whispering Pfanist," exclusive Columbia artist, received a most esthusiastic reception upon his artisal in this city recently to fill engagements in the local radio broadcasting sations. After leaving Los Angeles, Mr. Gilliam covered Bakersfield, Presno and Stuckstein. He was met in the latter city by A. J.



Greeting the "Whispering Planist" Schrade, of the Columbia organization, and after calling on the Stockton dealers it was nec-essary to make a hurried trip to San Francisco to fill a radio engagement. Arrangements were to fill a radio engagement. Arrangements were made to make the Journey by taxiplane and Mr. Gillham, together with Mr. Schrade were the first passengers to use this unique form of service. The flight was made in forty-eight minutes and Mr. Gillham was given an elaborate send-off by the mayor of the city. Chamber of Commerce officials and other dignitaries. While in San Francisco, Mr. Gillham appeared at stations KGO, KOP and KPRC. An interesting meeting for Columbia dealers was held during his visit to San Francisco and Mr. Gillham gave a splendful talk regarding Columbia

Gillham gave a splendid talk regarding Columbia recordings and other phases of the music industry. Newspaper copy was used in the local papers and numerous window displays featured his appearance in this city.

PLAY AT RIALTO TONIGHT

As a special added attraction, Manager Suilivan of the Rialto theater announces the engagement of Art Gillham, the whispering pianist, noted record and radio entertainer, for tonight only. He will appear at 7:40 and 9:30 p. m.

Art Gillham is known and admired by thousands of radio fans the country over, having broadcast from every station of any importance in the United States. He is also noted as a composer and a foremost Columbia record artist.

Among his recent popular compo-

Among his recent popular compo-citions may be listed "Hot Tamaie Molly," "Take Me With You" and several others. Mr. Glibam will of-fer on his program at the Rigito the same set that has been headlined on several of the important vaudeville circuits. He is the possessor of a splendid voice and sings as well as plays each number.

.....



ART GILLHAM
Nationally known as "The Whispering

is going to be at our store in person Thursday afternoon, May 14th, and will sing and play many of your favorite se-lections and will personally autograph any of his records you may wish to pur-chase.

chase. The same evening he will broadcast from the North Central station KFIO, so if it is impossible for you to come in during the afternoon, come in during the cycning and you will hear him on the radio.

radio.

Art Gillham is an EXCLUSIVE Columbia Record artist.

These three new records have just been realward.

ART GILLHA Booked Fo KPO PROGRA

Hale-Chronicle Radio Will Broadcast Songs by 'Whispering Pianist'

Other Instrumental and Vocal Numbers Tonight's Musical Features

Featuring tonight's broadcast from station KPO. Hale Brothers and The Chronicle. will be the appearance of Art Gillham, known to radio fans throughout the United States as the "whispering planist." Gillham, whose title resulted from his practice of broadcasting in such a low voice that persons in the same

a low voice that persons in the same studio can hardly hear him, has ap-peared before the microphones of more than 109 broadcasting stations during the last two years, including the leading stations of New York and Chicago.

SONGS AND PATTER

and Chicago.

SONGS AND PATTER

Tonight from KPO the record artist and composer will broadcast a special program of songs and patter with piano accompanion of the composition of the co

OTHER KPO FEATURES

OTHER KPO FEATURES
Other features of the KPO program will include a matter program from the Warfiel Program from the Warfiel Program from the Warfiel Profrom 130 for Fairmont Hotel orchestra from 1 to 2 p. m. 4:30 to 5:30 p. m. and 7 to 7:30 p. m.;
Waldemar Lind's States Restaurant
orchestra, from 6:30 to 7 p. m.;
Johnny Buick's Cabirians, from 10 C
to 11 p. m., and a tulk
Hutchinson, assistant and sted States
Hutchinson, assistant and the States
'American Forest Preservation
Week."
Regular features of KPO. such as

Week."

Regular features of KPO, such as
Regular features of KPO, such as
Compared to the signals, etc., also will be put
on the air.

Art Gillham, Columbia Artist, Scores Art Gillham, "The Whispering Pianist," exclusive Columbia artist, appeared in Portland May 1 to 4, under the auspices of the Columbia Phonograph Co. and under the local supervision of Randall Bargelt, district manager of the Columbia Co. Mr. Gillham was presented in concert at the larger stores handling Columbia records, among them the Meier & Frank Co., Hyatt Music Co. and the McCormick Music Co. Mr. Gillham played to great throngs and auto-

'Whispering Pianist' to Feature Radio Program Over WCCO Next Week

Art Gilliam, the whispering plantst, will be featured at the Gold Medal ra-s dido station May 20 and 22; it was an incumed today.

Gilliam sign in a whisper white Gilliam sign or with the state of the first national hookup program in which WCCO participated, the election night program from WEAF dast fail.

ARTHUR GILLHAM WILL PLAY AT RIALTO TONIGHT

graphed scores of records for customers.

1925, April 28 San Francisco, CA: KFRC 9:00 pm

1925, May 1 San Francisco: has been on California trip on radio

and music stores, traveling by air taxi.

1925, May 1-4 Portland

1925, May 5-13 Seattle Coliseum Theatre

1925, May 14 Spokane. KFIO

1925, May 16 Anaconda, Montana: Rialto Theater

1925, May 19-22 Minneapolis: WCCO 10:30 pm

1925, May 22 Columbia ad 328-D Right on top of the Pantages came Net Gillham the famous whispering planist, song writer and Columbia record artist, with a foxy line of chatter and a mean line of hot entertainment. His three numbers went over with a large bang and stirred the customers up consider-

AN all-artist program presenting a pearing through the courtesy sponsored by Mrs. Ruth Burke, one KFOA, the Rhedes Department Store station, tomorrow night from \$:30 to 10 o'clock.

In addition to Mrs. Burke two local artists who are seldom heard over the radio will participate in the program. They are Miss Carolyn Swing, well-known planist and teacher, and Boris Malsky, Russian lyric baritone and voice teacher.

Radio listeners, also will be privileged in hearing Miss Blanche Hoffman, talented lyric soprano of New York City, who is visiting in Scattle for the summer. Miss Hoffman is a well-known concert artist and will go on a tour of the country in the

The program has been prepared by Mrs. Burke and will consist of selections by favorite composers,

Whispering Pinnist.

Art Gillham "the whispering plan-ist" and exclusive Columbia artist, scored a triumph during The Times' broadcast over KFOA last night from 8:30 to 9:15 o'clock. Ap-

group of distinguished musicians, the Columbia Graphophone Company Mr. Gillham conclusively demonstrat-ed that it is entirely possible for a of Seattle's most gifted sopranos, will single artist to hold the attention of be broadcast by The Times over a great radio audience during an entire program.

Mr. Gillham is extremely versatile; is a jazz planist of national fame, the is a jazz planist of national fame, the possessor of an excellent baritone voice, and a story-teller of ability. Especially enjoyable of the numbers rendered last evening were "Carolina Blues," "Sweetest Little Rose in Tennessee," "Your Folks and My Folks," "Old Fashioned Rose" and his own composition, "Heart Broken Strain." "How Do You Do" was repeated several times at the request of listeners, one of which was received from a sailor aboard the steamship Admiral Rogers.

Assisting Mr. Gillham was W. P. Day of the Remick Song Shop. Mr. Day has a splendid baritone voice most suitable for radio work and was thoroughly enjoyed in "Take Me Back to Your Heart" and "Old Pal."

Tonight is the regular weekly sl-lent night and KFOA will shut down immediately after the "Radio Seminar for Parents and Boys," which will be staged by the Moran School from 6 to 7 p. m.

Seattle fans who enjoyed the recent concerts by Art Gillham "the whis-pering planist," when he appeared for The Times over KFOA, will have another opportunity of hearing this jazz planist when he plays at 8 o'clock tonight, Seattle time, from WCCO (416.4m), the powerful community broadcasting station of Minneapolis and St. Paul. WCCO is one of the best of the distant broadcasters and usually comes in with good volume.

"Whispering Pianist" on Air Art Gillham Will Broadcast

Art Gilham exclusive Columbia vocal-style player-roli artist, composer and song writer, will feature the Wednesday night broadcast from 5:30 to 5:15 p. m. Mr. Gilham is known as the "Whispering Planist,"

and although he almost whispers into the microphone, his voice carries re-markably. He writes many of his own songs and is famous for his play-

own songs and is famous for his playing of snappy melodies. He has appeared at virtually all the powerful broadcasting stations and has received more than 65,000 letters from radio fans during the last year and as many as 300 telegrams after one program. The Coliseum Theatre Orchestra also will be on the air Wednesday night, broadcasting a concert by remote control from 9:15 to 10 p. m.

Columbia Record Artist Will Entertain KFOA Fans Tonight From 8:30 Until 9:15, Coliseum Theatre Later.

Some and "Do Kee Livie Dream of Mr. Mr. Gallham is appearing through the Columbia Geographics and the Columbia Geographics Company. At 9:15 p. m. central will be shifted to the Colleges in the air of the Colleges. The central colleges are not been also then musiciate may be heard on The Turke programs overy certains.

to 10 p. m.

band, features.

WCCO, Minneapolis-St. Paul (418.4)

8. North Dakota; 8.15, agriculture
8:30, U. of Minnesota program
10:30, dance; Art Gillham, whisper-

KFOA

Owned and Operated by Rhodes
Department Store.
454.3 Meters.

"AFTERNOONS AT HOME." THE TIMES.

4 to 5 p. m.—William Hofmann's Olympic Hotel orchestra, playing in the Palm Room of the hotel, will give a classic program, broadcast by re-mote control.

mote control.

5 p. m.—Program by Art Gilham,
"the whispering planist," playing
through courtesy of the Columbia
Graphophone Company.

THE TOURING RADIO ENTERTAINER

The Whispering Pianist'

ART GILLHAM

Exclusive Columbia Record Artist

HEAR HIM ON THE AIR - GET HIS RECORDS

No. 238D - "How Do You Do"; "Way Out West in

No. 297D - "Carolina Blues"; "The Deacon Told Me I Was Good"

No. 326D - "Hot Tamale Molly"; "Can't Your Friend Get a Friend for Me"; Come and Hear Him Play on the Knabe Piano Tuesday, May 12th Between 3 and 4 P. M. at

Stark Piano Co.

1317 CORNWALL AVENUE

Bellingham's Headquarters for Everything Musical

1925, May 23

Minneapolis newspaper reports a fan in Minneapolis drew an image of Art during his previous visit there. Art frequently used in drawing in his advertising.





1925, May 23-31 Des Moines: WHO

1925, May 30 Columbia ad 326-D and 328-D

1925, June Record released: Columbia 328-D and 343-D, The first released Columbia

electrical recordings by matrix number (140125-7).

1925, June Minneapolis-St Paul: WCCO



Columbia Artist Aids Dealers
Art Gillham, Columbia's "Whispering Pianist," was another artist visiting here, broadcasting over WCCO. This was Gillham's first local appearance as an exclusive Columbia star. He made a very favorable impression on Twin City dealers, and was kept busy autographing records. Gillham made personal appearances at several St. Paul and Minneapolis stores, including the Majestic Music Shop, the Cammack Piano Co. and the Emporium.

1925, June

Columbia changed its label design from the Flag to the Black label with gold lettering. The new label did not include the words "Electrical Recording". Columbia issued acoustical and electrical recordings on the black label. Electrical recordings were identified by a "W" stamped on the inside grooves, though the first released electrical recordings were on the Flag label without the "W".

1925, June 6

Columbia ads one for Art's 326-D and 328-D and one for Adeste Fidelis 50013-D





1925, June 26

New York: made four recordings for Columbia, including one on which Columbia's notations indicate Art played guitar rather than piano: *Page Mr. Handy*. As the recording was not issued it is unknown if this is a clerical error. No other mention is found of Art playing any instrument other than piano. He did

make a piano roll of the song in March, 1926.

140725-2 Smile All The While (3 takes)

(Davis - Ager)

Col 411-D

Col 3748 (England)

140726-1 *Are You Sorry* (3 takes)

(Davis - Ager)

Col 458-D

140727-1 *Angry* (3 takes)

(Mecum - Cassard - Brunies - Brunies)

(a Ted Browne song)

Col 411-D

Col 3855

140728-1-2-3 *Page Mr. Handy* (vocal, guitar?)

(Willard Robison)

Not issued (resumes on March 18, 1926)





Angry was a Ted Browne song successfully promoted by Art on radio and record.

1925, June 27

New York: made three recordings for Columbia.

140731-3 So That's The Kind Of A Girl You Are (4 takes)

(Joe Burke)

Col 442-D

140732-1 *Cecilia* (3 takes)

(Dave Dreyer)

Col 425-D

140733-3 Feelin' Kind O' Blue

(Wholman - Ruby - Cooper)

Col 442-D

1925, June 29

New York: made three recordings for Columbia

140734-1-2-3 *Words Of Love*

(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)

not issued

140735-3 Loving Just You

(Olsen - Art Gillham)

Col 458-D

140736-1 *If You Leave Me I'll Never Cry* (4 takes)

(Schmidt - Lloyd - Ferris)

Col 425-D



Columbia

1925, July

Columbia Records Monthly Supplement - Art's picture

is on the cover.





The supplement lists 328-D and 343-D, the first electricals recorded on February 25. The comment is: "The Whispering Pianist (Art Gillham) is the '376-lb., bald-headed, fat man' of radio. He has achieved a marked success over the air by his whispering songs, sung in an intimate, appealing and friendly tone. His recordings are made in the same intimate style – different from the ordinary vocal record." The supplement also shows previous release of 326-D, also among the first electrical recordings and the acoustical recordings 238-D and 297-D as records issued since December, 1924.

1925, Aug Record released: Columbia 387-D.

1925, August Columbia ad

RADIO FANS—Your favorite, ART GILLHAM, in his new record "ANGRY," Columbia Shop, CITY BOOK STORE. ART GILLHAM'S LATEST RECORDS at Columbia Shop: "You May Be Lonesome." "I Had Someone Else Before I Had You." "Second Hand Love." "Hesitation Blues." "How Your Folks and My Folks." City Book Store.



Romance of Old World Cities Recounted In San Antonio Woman Author's Writings

There is something that the nation should consider more important than whether or not we are descended from monkeys. And speaking of monkeys isn't it more kind to say "ascended" from monkeys. Surely mankind descrives that in spite of such proofs to the contrary as the Scopes trial, and ladies in knickerbockers, and the modern dances.

ern dances.

But to continue, this other something is very serious. It is obvious at every turn and no one seems to do anything about it. The the death of romance. This is a business-like day, and everyone expresses himself in a brief, terse way. The most romantic ladies wear tailored collars and bow ties and have their necks shaved. Hats are rarely beautiful; more often only trim and smart. Modern verte is never Rowery. The sing of the nightingale is greeted with, "Why doesn't that darn bird shut up so I can enjoy Art Gillam's song, That Sonnous Else Before I. Had You and I'll Have Someone After You're Gone." Therecome to mind a speech which a gentleman made about-

1925, August 2

San Antonio: article mentioning Art and a song.

1925, Aug. 8

Ted department;

Music Trade Indicator, p 31 article: "Art Gillham with Harold Rossiter". Art has joined Harold Rossiter Music Company of Chicago after having been with Browne Music Company for seven years. He is in charge of the sales he has broadcast from 150 radio stations from coast to coast.

ART GILLHAM WITH HAROLD ROSSITER

It is announced that Art Gillham, the whispering pianist and Columbia record artist has joined the forces of the Harold Rossiter Music Company of Chicago, after having been with the Ted Brown Music Company, Inc., of this city for seven years. In his new connection Mr. Gillham will have charge of the sales department. Mr. Gillham will continue his tours of broadcasting stations. During the last two years, it is stated, he has been heard from over one hundred and fifty stations stretching from coast to coast. The Harold Rossiter Music Company is located at 323-25 West Madison street.

Art Gillham, exclusive Columbia artist and widely known to radio fans as the Whispering Pianlst, accompanied F. W. Gumaer, Columbia representative for the Toledo district, over his territory recently. He gave exhibitions of his skill as an entertainer in several music stores. At the L. C. Gorsuch & Co. rooms, Springfield, O., he entertained a large assembly of patrons. As a result Gillham's records are selling briskly in Springfield.

1925, Aug 8

Pittsburgh WJAS

1925, August

Columbia Supplement reviews How's Your Folks and My Folks, recorded February 26 (which was the only recording he made that was not doubled with another of his recording) which was doubled with Van and Schenk's Take 'Em To The Door: "The coupling is by The Whispering Pianist (Art Gillham), the cross-country radio tourist, whose friendly intimate way of whispering his songs has made him popular with Columbia buyers who have heard his previous records."

Art wrote Jim Walsh on May 24, 1957: "Due to the acceptance and big sale on 328-D, Frank Walker, the recording manager for Columbia, wished to get another record on sale quick, and had only one more side that I had recorded. With me on the West Coast and unable to get back to New York at once, he backed Van and Schenk on Norfolk, the only record where I was not on both sides. And about Norfolk - I ruined three masters when recording this one (as I was from the "Deep Sooth"), because Walker insisted on my putting the "r's" in and that took plenty of practice."

1925, Sept Springfield, OH:

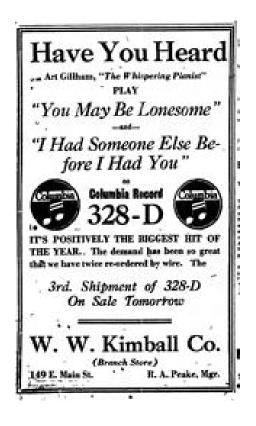
1925, Sept. Record released: Columbia 411-D.

1925, Sept 3-5 Minneapolis WCCO

1925, Sept 3 Columbia ads







THE WHISPERING PIANIST COMING TO STATION WOC

Art Gillham Will Be In Davenport Friday and Saturday, Sept. 18-19.

Ask any radio fan if he has beerd "The Whispering Pinnist" and nine out of ten will answer "Yes." Few. however, know that his real name is Art Gillham and that he lives in Ft. Wayne, Indiann. He has worked at over 168 radio stations thruout the country and is booked for broadcasting from WOC. The Palmer School of Chirogenetic sta-tion, at Davenport, on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 18 and 10, respec-tively.

Saturdey, Sept. 18 and 19, respectively,
Art was maned "The Whispering Planist" by Lamidin Kay, the popular announcer of WSB, Athous, George, because when he broadcasts be peartically whispers into the microphone and it is almost impossible for persons is the same room to hear him when he works. His voice carries perfectly thousands of miles to homes in every direction. Last spring, this whisper hardly and he is zero room with the artist, was heard in New Zealand clearer than anything else os the program.

on the program.
On his arrival in Everett, Washon his arrival in Everett, Washington, during his last, western tour, the Everett Police Department decided that they wanted to hear him "in person," so they went to the radio station while he was working, arrested him (upon a fake charge), took him to the solice station, locked him in a cell, mored in a piano, and made him play his way to freedom. And the newspapers say that Art never worked so hard before.

The soags that Art wall feature from WoC. Bavenport, are "if You Leave Me I'll Never Cry," Let Me Call You Sweetheart," "I Want You Cally "Where Can I Find You?" and "Loving Just You."

1925, Sept 11 Columbia ad 411-D

1925, Sept 12 Davenport, IA WOC

1925, Sept 15 (Victor Records recorded

Jack Smith doing

Cecilia. Victor bills Jack

Smith as "Whispering Jack Smith".)

1925, Sept 17-19 Davenport, IA WOC 8:00

COLUMBIA RECORDS 'NEW HITS THAT ARE WORTH HAVING' The Whispering Pianist WT.MCCOY & CO. THE CAROLINAS' GREATEST FURNITURE STORE

WSBF-273 Meters

TUESDAY, 10:30 P. M .- Leland Ballard, accordionist; Art Gillham, the "whispering planist"; Harry Kes-sel, tenor; Miss Elaine Evens, con-cert planist; Mrs. Winchell Hirzell Echardt, soloist.

NOON—Stock and news. Wm. Haury, pianist; Evangeline Cowles, contralto; popular songs by Ed. Goessling: Elmer McDonald, baritone; Steve Cady, Johnnie Adams, Art Gillham, Harry Kessel, Jack Lavin, vocalists.

1925, Oct. Record released: Columbia 425-D (Cecilia).

1925 Oct 3 Davenport WOC

> Coming on the air again after an absence of one week, with a special grand opening of the season of 1925-1926, WIP will have an excellent program tonight. On the same evening Art Gillham, dubbed the "Whispering Pianist" by Lambdin Kay, will whisper over the microphone of WOC, Palmer school at

Buffalo: WGR 8:30 1925, Oct 7

Columbia ad 425-D 1925, Oct 8

1925, Oct 17 Columbia ad 425-D & 442-D

Art Gillham, Whispering Pianist, Assists Dealers

Art Gillham, the "Whispering Planist," popular broadcasting artist and exclusive Columbia artist, is broadcasting from Stations WJZ and WEAF, New York, during the period from Oetober 13 to October 21, and Columbia dealers are taking advantage of the interest stimulated in the recordings of this star to push to the fullest possible extent the Columbia records which he has made. One of the most popular Columbia recordings of erecnt release is "Are You Sorry?" coupled with "Loving Just Yon," both of which are sung by Mr. Gillham. During his stay in the netropolitan section Mr. both of which are sung by Mr. Gillham. Diring his stay in the metropolitan section Mr. Gillham will appear at store concerts of a number of Columbia dealers, including the Chambers Music Co., New York; the Broad & Market Music Co., Newark, and the Broadway Music Co. New York. Special vocal selections were played by Art Gillham, song writer and re-cording artist, nationally known as the Whispering Pianist of Radio. Mr. Gillham played his own compositions. A four-minute digest of the Inter-national Sunday-school lesson was given by C. M. Summers, of Nash-ville, Tenn. Returns of the Firpo-Wills fight were radiocast.

were radiocast.

The programme yesterday afternoon was featured by selections by Art Gillham, the Whispering Planist of Radio. Selections were sung by Mme. Ersilia Fanelli and selections were played by the McKenzie Highlanders, by remote control from the State Fair. Selections were also radiocast by the Alamo Theater Orchestra, Harry S. Currie, conductor. The usual afternon features were read.

WOC PLANS BIG PROGRAMS 'AGAIN

Art Gillham, the famous "Whis-pering Pianist," will give pleasure to WOC listeners again, Sept 18th and 19th.

WOC, Davenport, is planning a new series of joyous entertainments-Wednesday | night "hookups" with WEAF, New York city, and other stations. Some splendid programs are promised.

ART GILLHAM "WHISPERS" AT WOC TONIGHT

Ask any radio fan if he has heard "The Whispering Pianist" and nine out of ten will answer "Yes" Few, however, know that his real name is art Gillham and that he lives in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. He has worked at over 160 radio stations throughout this country and is booked for broadcasting from WOC, tonight and tomorrow night.

Art was named "The Whispering Pianist" by Lambdin Kay, the

concerning which frequent com-plaint is received by the Depart-ment of Commerce.

ment of Commerce.

Powerless to Remedy Evil.

But the department finds itself powerless to remedy the situation at present. The available wave lengths have long since been exhausted, and it now is forced to require that stations divide time, so that two or more in the same locality may use the same wave length.

length.
This means, it is pointed out, that

popular announcer at WSB, At-lanta, Georgia, because when he broadcasts he practically whispers into the microphone and it is al-most impossible for persons in the same room to hear him when he works. His voice carries perfectly thousands of miles to homes in every direction. Last spring, this whisper, hardly audible in the same room with the artist, was heard in New Zealand clearer than any-thing else on the program.

room with the artist, was heard in New Zealand clearer than anything else on the program.

Played Oat of Jail.

On his arrival in Everett, Washington, during his last western tour, the Everett Police Department decided that they wanted to hear him 'in person," so they went to the radio station while he was working, arrested him (upon a fake charge), took him to the police station, locked him in a cell, moved in a piano, and made him play his way to freedom. And the newspapers say that Art never worked so hard before.

The songs that Art will feature from WOC, Davenport, are "If You Leave Me I'll Never Cry," "Let Me Call You Sweetheart," "I Want You. Only," "Where Can I Find You?" and "Loving Just You."



Art Gillham

"The Whispering Pianist." Art has sung over the radio from most of the broadcasting stations in the United States, but he is at his best on

Columbia

New Process

Records

"No Surface Noise"



If you never cared for vocal selections on records, hear Art sing these late hits:

So That's the Kind of a Girl You Are 442D Feelin' Kind o'

425D 75c

If You Leave Me I'll Never Cry Cecilia

Hear Them at Your Neighborhood Dealer:

Benatu-Rechlicz Pura, Company, 581 Lincoln Avenue.

E. Thielemann Music Company, 2004 Center Street.

Vincent Gull, 478 National Avenue

Thirry Music & Spec. Company, 872 3rd Street.

P. A. Garstecki, 003 Bremen Street,

tees. W. Veigt Music Company, 1135 Teutonia Avenue.

Nell Plane Company, 1013 Muskego Avenue Frank Preusa Compuns. 1210 Walnut Street.

Wise, Phono, Repair & Music Shop, 1918 3rd Street, West Allis Sarophone Shop, 5.115 Greeniteld Avenue,

um

Records Play Without Surface Noise.

1925, Oct 13-21 New York: WEAF and WJZ The banquet, which was tendered Mr. Mayers by his trade associates, employes and friends, was replete with entertainment features furnished by the Columbia Phonograph Co. The dancing was done to the strains of music provided by the Columbians, recording artists, playing under the direction of Robert Hood Bowers, musical director of the Columbia Phonograph Co. Between dances Pete Dale, exclusive Columbia artist, played on his seven-stringed ukulele and sang several selections. Art Gillham, the "Whispering Pianist," of nation-wide radio broadcasting fame, who is also a Columbia artist, did his bit to make the party the success which it was. Between courses of the dinner further entertainment was furnished by Rubic Goldberg, humorist; R. Burstein, Seymour Rechtzeit, Estelle Schreiner, soprano, and other Columbia artists.

1925, Oct. 19

New York: made four recordings including one as vocalist with Lanin's Red Heads (Red Nichols). Red Nichols, cornet; Hymie Faberman, trumpet; Miff Mole, trombone; Clarence Heidke; Alfie Evan, clarinet; George Slater, clarinet; Tony Colucci, banjo; Joe Tarto, brass bass; Vic Barton, drums; Art Gillham, piano.

141155- I'm Gonna Hang Around My Sugar

Col 483-D (Lanin's Red Heads, Art Gillham piano)

141156-2 Five Foot Two Eyes Of Blue

141156-3 Five Foot Two Eyes Of Blue

(Louis - Young - Henderson)

Col 483-D (Lanin's Red Heads,

Art Gillham, piano, vocal)

141157-1-2-3 Let Me Call You Sweetheart

(Leo Friedman)

not issued

141158-1-2-3 Let Us Waltz As We Say Goodbye

(Art L. Beiner)

not issued

141159-1-2-3 Hello, Little Girl Of My Dreams

(Lew Berk)

not issued (resumes on March 17, 1926)

Art, in a letter dated May 24, 1957 to Jim Walsh for an article in *Hobbies Magazine* said: "Red Nichols' Band was Lanin's Red Heads on *Five Foot Two, Eyes of Blue*. He and I were good friends, and he asked Walker to have me do a vocal on his record. I did, and it did the sales no good. That was the only dance record for which I sang the vocal." However, he did an uncredited vocal on another Lanin session on Okeh on August 3, 1928.



141165-3 *Mean Blues*

(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)

Col 550-D

141166-1-2-3 *Just Waiting For You*

(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)

not issued (resumes March 19, 1926)

141167-1 Don't Let Me Stand In Your Way (4 takes)

(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)

Col 529-D

141168-1-2-3 Where Can I Find You

(Mintz - Wilber)

not issued

New York: made three recording for Columbia 1925, Oct. 21

141172-2 *She's My Gal* (4 takes)

(Chauncey C. Lee)

Col 550-D

141173-1 You're More Than A Pal To Me (3 takes)

(Stevens - Costello)

Col 505-D

141174-3 Bam Bam Bammy Shore

(Ray Henderson)

Col 529-D

1925, Oct 21 Newark, NJ: WAAM 8-9 pm

1925, Oct. 24 New York: made 3 recordings for Columbia, including a piano solo on *Memphis*

Blues.

141190-2 I'm Sitting On Top Of The World

141190-3 I'm Sitting On Top Of The World

(Lewis - Young - Henderson)

Col 505-D

141191-1-2-3 Little Southern Pal Of Mine

(Smythe - Gillham - Maddox)

not issued

141192-1-2 Memphis Blues (piano solo)











(W. C. Handy)

not issued

1925, Nov

Record released: Columbia 442-D.

1925, Nov.

Columbia Supplement reviews Col 442-D, recorded June 27: "The Whispering Pianist (Art Gillham) is becoming more popular every day. A recent letter from him - he is touring the radio stations of the Middle West - says he is getting requests to sing more ballads. Here are two ballads (So That's The Kind Of A Girl You Are and Feelin Kind O' Blue) that are sung in a way that clearly indicates why he is popular as a ballad singer."

1925, Nov

Record announcement:

"Five Foot Two," played by Lanin's Red Heads with a vocal chorus by Art Gillham, the Whispering Pianist, coupled with "I'm Gonna Hang Around My Sweetie," is scheduled for early release by the Columbia Phonograph Co.

1925, Nov. 1

Atlanta: Art shoots himself in thigh while driving to target range, condition not

serious. He was on a southern tour.

w Process RECORDS We List a Few of the Latest Hi On Columbia Records

1925, Nov 13

Columbia ad 458-D

1925, Nov. 21

Music Trade Indicator, p 33, article: "Art Gillham

ART GILLHAM SHOOTS HIMSELF ACCIDENTALLY Shoots Himself Accidentally" Notes he has appeared on over 200 radio stations, however another article has 200 on Dec 4.

BUDD'S MUSIC HOUSE

New York, Nov. 18.—Art Gillham "The Whis pering Pianist" of radio fame and exclusive Co-lumbia recording artist, accidentally shot himself through the left thigh while driving to the target range in Atlanta, Georgia, November 1. His con-

range in Atlanta, Georgia, November I. His condition is not serious.

Gillham is one of the best known broadcasting artists, and a popular record artist. He has worked at more than 200 stations throughout the country. Lambdin Kay, announcer of WSB, Atlanta, where "The Whispering Pianist" was appearing at the time he met with the accident, is responsible for Gillham's nom de ether. The title is an accurate description of Gillham's method inasmuch as he actually whiteness into the microchones and it. actually whispers into the microphone, and it is almost impossible for persons in the same room to hear him when he works. His voice, however, carries perfectly thousands of miles in every direc-

Gillham had been on a tour of Southern radio Gillnam had been on a four of southern radio stations until his schedule was interrupted by this accident. However, it is expected that the tour will be continued as soon as he is able to move around again.

RECORDING ARTIST WOUNDED

Art Gillham, "The Whispering Pianist" of Radio Phonograph Record Fame, Shoots Himself.

Art Gillham, "The Whispering Pianist," of radio fame and exclusive Columbia recording artist, accidentally shot himself through the left thigh while driving to the target range in Atlanta, Georgia, on November 1. His condition is not serious.

Lambkin Kay, announcer of WSB, Atlanta, where "The Whispering Pianist" was appearing at the time he met with the accident, is responsible for Gillham's broadcasting fame. The title is an accurate description of Gillham's method inasmuch as he actually whispers into the microphone and it is almost impossible for persons in the same room to hear him when he works. His voice, however, carries perfectly thousands of miles in every direction. The tour will be continued as soon as he is able to move around again.

Accidentally Shoots Himself Art Gillham, "The Whispering Pianist" of radio fame and exclusive Columbia recording artist, accidentally shot himself through the left thigh while driving to the target range in Atlanta, Ga., on November 1. His condition is

not serious. Gillham is one of the best-known

broadcasting and record artists. He has worked at more than 200 stations throughout the country. He had been on a tour of Southern radio stations until his schedule was interrupted by this accident. The tour will be continued as soon

ns he is able to move around again.

Eddie Cantor has a new record in the Columbia list this week, "Oh! Boy, What a Girl." His version has plenty of choruses. Billy Jones and Ernest Hare complete the disc with another "nut" song that they have used over the air with good results. It is "Pardon Me While I Laugh."

The "whispering pianist," Art Gillham, has a new one this week. It's "Are You Sorry?" Gillham sings it in his own intimate way, and he talks to his fingers, as usual. "Loving Just You," on the reverse side of the disc, is one of Gillham's own—and who could sing it with better feeling than the author? They are both good numbers, well sung.

WHAS, LOUISVILLE-399.8 8:30 7:30—Connie's Orchestra; Gillham, pianist. Orchestra; Art WHO DES MOINES-528.0

1925, Nov 25-26

Louisville: WHAS 7:30 pm

1925, Nov 27 (Jack Smith's *Cecilia* is released on Victor and billed as Jack Smith, Whispering Baritone.).

1925, Nov 27 Columbia ad 458-D

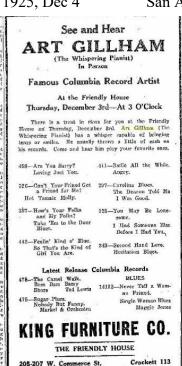
1925, Dec Record released: Columbia 458-D.

1925, Dec. A flyer is sent to record dealers with a complete list of Art Gillham records: 238-D through 505-D, with slogan "already famous enough to be imitated", a reaction to the release of the Whispering Jack Smith's release of Cecilia.



1925, Dec 3 San Antonio: personal appearance at Friendly House King Furniture

1925, Dec 4 San Antonio: personal appearance









Art Gillham,	"the wh	spering pla	n-
st." known ti	roughout	the land	as
of the day, w	il come t	o WHAS f	10
an engagement	of three :	appearances	-
Friday and Sa			
Friday night.			
m.Bue.			

1925, Dec 6 San Antonio: WOAI station number 200.

1925, Dec 6 Dallas radio 8:30 pm

1925 Dec 11 Louisville WHAS

to 5 P.M.—Special musical selec-tions, under the direction of Harry S. Currie, assisted by Leroy Hobb, by remote control from the Music Box.

Art Gillham, the whispering planist.

Cincinnatti: WLW 6:40 pm 1925, Dec 14-23

1925, Dec 31 Columbia ad 505-D

New York: at WMCA, broadcast for 29 consecutive days for 30 minutes each 1925-1926

appearance.

The Triangle Co. has also released a new ballad of the waltz variety called "You're More Than a Pal to Me." The writers are Bartley Costello and Robert L. Stevens. Art Gillham, Columbia record artist, who is billed under the title "Whispering Pianist" and now making a radio tour of the country, is introducing this new number.

The number shows all signs of being very popular.



BAIN PHOTOS

In 1925, Columbia retained famous photographer George Bain to make a series of humorous photos of Art to be used in publicity. Some were used in the Columbia monthly supplements. Art included some in his scrapbook with his own humorous captions. George Bain's photographs are available through the Smithsonian.







Art named above "Art leaving Chicago for New York to make Columbia Records"







"Art's expensive town car in New York"

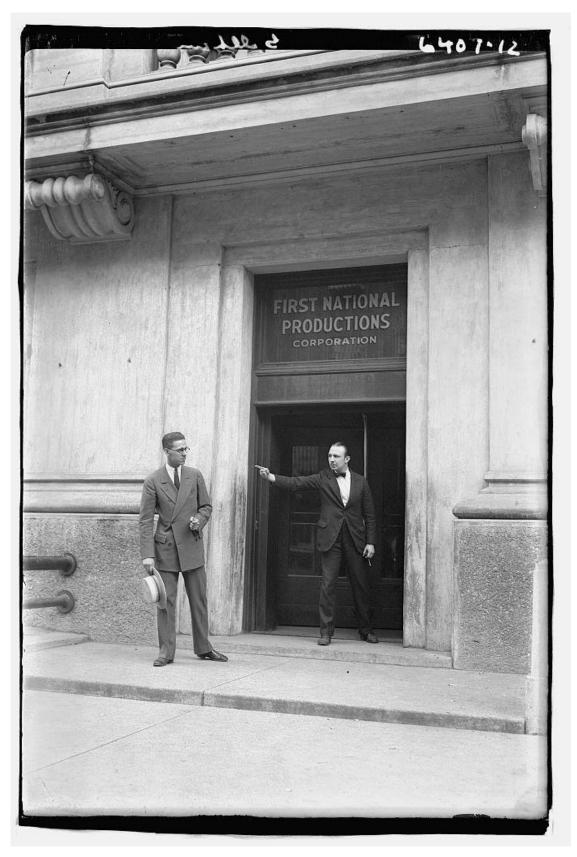


"Art's exquisite bathroom in his New York apartment"





"Art's Ritzy Park Place apartment in New York"



"Art is welcomed by thousands at the studio."



titles given for these.



1926

1926 Sheet Music: *Don't Let Me Stand In Your Way*, Billy Smythe & Art Gillham

Sheet Music: *Crying Again*, Billy Smythe & Art Gillham, Jack Mills Music

Sheet Music: *Hesitation Blues*, Billy Smythe, Scott Middleton & Art Gillham, Jack Mills Music.

Sheet Music: *I Don't Want To Forget*, Billy Smythe & Art Gillham, Triangle Music

1925-1926 Art began six month radio tour through south and Middle West

New York: made piano rolls for Aeolian Company:

Idolizing

Duo-Art 713316; Mel-O-Dee 47372

Take In The Sun, Take Out The Moon

Duo-Art 713321; Mel-O-Dee 47378

1926 Columbia purchased the Okeh label. It continued as a separate label.

1926 Art endorses Baldwin Pianos

1926,



1926, Jan Cleveland, Ohio area: *Phonograph and Talking Machine Weekly* reports that Art Gillham is broadcasting from towns in the Cleveland district.

1926, Jan Records released: Columbia 483-D and 505-D.





1926, Jan.

Columbia Supplement reviews Columbia 505-D recorded in October, 1925: "A short time after Art Gillham recorded *I'm Sitting On Top Of The World* he accidentally shot himself and has been confined to the hospital since. Recent word from him, however, tells us that he is improving and expects to be back "on the air" in a short time."

1926, Jan 2 Columbia ad 483-D







1926, Jan 8

ad:

The WHISPERING **PIANIST**

(Art Gillham)

Pm Sitting On Top Of The World—The Whispering Pianist (Art Gillham)

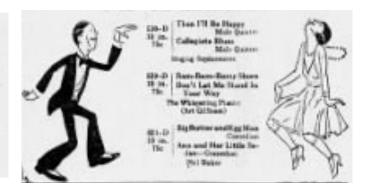
You're More Than a Pal To Me—The Whispering Pianist (Art Gillham) Are You Sorry? — The Whispering Pianist (Art Gillham)

Pianist (Art Gillham)
Loving Just You — The Whispering Pianist (Art Gillham)

So That's The Kind Of A Girl
You Are—The Whispering Pianist (Art Gillham)

Facile (No. 10)

Feelin' Kind O' Blue—The Whis-pering Pianist (Art Gillham)



1926, Jan 9

1926, Jan 15

Appleton, WI

1926, Jan 24

Cleveland - criticism

With Art Gillham, "whispering pianist," back in this neck of the woods, the opinion may be ventured that both his singing and his playing have improved. As intimated some months ago, there was plenty

1926, Feb 5

Columbia ad 529-D

1926, Feb

Columbia ad 550-D

1926, Feb 12

Elmira, NY, ill, unable to sing but

Performed on piano.

ART GILLHAM, (the Whispering Planist) meet him in person at our store Friday afternoon. Hear his record, Durfey Music Co., 209 W. Water street. A SMALL SIZED apartment piano

The "Whispering Pianist" To Appear Here In Person On Friday

Art Gillham, Known the Country Over as a Radio and Columbia Phonograph Artist, to Visit Durfey Music Company Store.

Friday afternoon Elmira will be one for any monetary gain. honored by the appearance, at the Durfey Music Co., of Art Gillham, exclusive Columbia Phonograph artist and radio broadcaster. Mr. Gillham, selections are popular everywhere, his records are always in demand, and personally as well as professionally he's one of the popular men of the country.

His appearance in Elmira is not the store of the Durfey Music Co., at 209 West Water street, and meet Art Gillham, and hear him sing and play any of his own selections. No obligation whatever in curred in your visit.

Remember the date and place—Friday afternoon, Feb, 12th, at 209 West Water street—just above Main.—Advertisement.

public is cordially invited to call at the store of the Durfey Music Co.,



THE WHISPERING PIANIST

(Art Gillham)

Exclusive

Columbia

New Process

Record Artist

Smoothest Surface. Last the Longest. Sound Better on any Phonograph.

Look for this Trademark



New Hits Now on Sale

Morris Music House

Corner of Ninth

"Whispering Pianist" Lives

Up To Cognomen While Here **OPEN INQUEST GRADY DEATH**

(Continued on Page Fifteen)

Art Gillman, Who Came to Elmira to Play and Sing, Foregoes Latter Part of Program Due to Recent

An inquest into the death of Jack Grady, Elmira youth who was killed in January on a D. L. & We crossing in this city when struck by a passenger train, was held Thursday afternoon by Dr. Trace of the Wilkies-Fing Planist," is a distor in Elmira today. Mr. Gillham, popular song with the Whilspering Planist," is a distor in Elmira today. Mr. Gillham, appeared at the Durfey music store where he entertained at the plane hefore leaving tonight for Wilkes-Barre and Philadelphia. In the latter city he will broadcast for the days beginning next Wednesstemony at the continued inquest. He will broadcast for the days beginning next Wednesstemony at the continued inquest. He will broadcast for the days beginning next Wednesstemony at the continued inquest. He will broadcast for the days beginning next Wednesstemony at the continued inquest. He will be districted to strength of the days beginning next Wednesstemony at the continued inquest. Mr. Gillham, popular song writer and Columbia artist, known as the Whitspering Planist, is a district in Elmira today. Mr. Gillham, popular song writer and Columbia artist, known as the columbia artist, known as the columbia artist, known as the Whitspering Planist, is a district and Columbia artist, known as the Whitspering Planist, is a district and Columbia artist, known as the Whitspering Planist, is a district and Columbia artist, known as the Whitspering Planist, is a district and Columbia artist, known as the Whitspering Planist, is a district and Columbia artist, known as the Whitspering Planist, is a district and Columbia artist, known as the Whitspering Planist, is a district and Columbia artist, known as the Whitspering Planist, is a district and Columbia

bers of the Corning Lions Club have been invited to attend the Charter Night exercises of the Sayre Lions Club which will be held March 17. The Sayre Club

1926, Feb 14

After his unfortunate accident of a short time ago, Art Gillham, the whispering planist, is back on the job entertaining radio audiences throughout the courty. He spent the holidays with the country. He spent the holidays with two selections on this record include the very popular "Bam Bam Bamy Shore" and "Don't Let Me Stand in Your Way." a ballad that Art wrote himself. The style, as usual, is the kind that has made him so popular throughout the country.

1926 Feb 22

Chicago. WLIT

RADIO—WEAF, 8:15—Address by President Coolidge; WOO-WEAF, 10—Tabloid opera: "Cavalleria Rusticana:" WLIT, 10:45 —Art Gillham, "Whispering Pianist."

1926, Feb 26

Washington, DC WCAP, WRC, WMAL

and White House.





'Whispering Pianist' Pleases
Many With His Radio Programs

Didn't Whisper



to Do Any Whispering While Here.

Art Gillham, the 'Whisperins Planist' and known to many radio fans of the country, was an Elmira visitor Friday. Mr. Gillham, an ex-

Recent Case of Tonsilitis,

However, Makes it Impossible For Art Gillman

Are columns, the Winsperias Planist' and known to many radio fans of the country, was an Elmira visitor Friday. Mr. Gilham, an exclusive Columbia artist, appeared heard at for musis circ. He was heard at for musis circ. He was heard at for musis circ. He was with his records, explaining the act of their making.

and reason three and onemathy years Mr. Githam has been
half years Mr. Githam has been
radio fans as the known
has real
name. He nas worked at more
than 20e radio stations throughout
the country. He resides in Pt.
Wayne, Ind., works out of Chicago
and epends the greater portion of
his time on the road. Although
exclusively a Columbia record
artist under a five-year contract,
which he renewed last October, Mr.
dilhant is on the road in his per-

Mi. Interests.

Mi. Hilliam, who is 25 years old, as spent 15 years on the road. He as spent 15 years on the road. He william to the spent of the public He believes per the public He believes per the and regards; an assistance to the and regards; an assistance to the and regards; an assistance to the and regards; and assistance to the and regards; and assistance of the spent of t

"Hesitation Blues" was Mr. Gillham's first musical success. It was soon after Mr. Gillham he come soon after Mr. Gillham he completed his high school course. Since that time he has enjoyed exceptional success. He was born in Atlanta, Ga, and takes characters from his former home state as ideas for his musical numbers.

Lamdbin Kay, announcer at staion WSB, Alanta, Ga, christened Mr. Gilhiam the "Whispering Plant its distinction of the control of the its distinction of the control of the its distinction of the control of the property of the control of the cont

Mr. Gilliam clowns himself over he radio. As his finefers ramble he radio. As his finefers ramble of bis life, his struggle in transsorting 215 pounds of superfluous lesh, his hald head troubles, adnits he cannot sing and calls himelf broken down piano player trytim considerable amusement in necting strangers, many of whom imilar to his descriptions. Comrary to their mental pletures of the properties of the properties of the rary to their mental pletures of the in build and is neither bald nor rocken down.

Mr. Gillham is the possessor of a Rr. Gillham is the possessor of a georersationality, an interestor of the state of the the state of the state of the state by impressed with Elmira. Reovering from a case of tonsilities of the state of

1926, Mar Records released: Columbia 529-D and 550-D.

1926, Mar.

Columbia Supplement shows the release of Columbia 529-D and 550-D, both recorded in October, 1925: "The Whispering Pianist is one of the most sought after artists on the air. He is in constant demand throughout the country, and he attributes his popularity to the intimate way he delivers his entertainment. Whether he is singing a ballad, a blues, or a comedy number, Art injects his personality in a way that makes it "different".

1926, abt Mar.

piano roll issued:

Page Mr. Handy Blues

Vocalstyle 13976

1926, Mar. 2

Washington, DC: Art and his wife were received at the White House by President Calvin Coolidge. Art presented the President with four of his recent Columbia recordings

1926, March 12 ad



1926, March 15

Chicago. Letter written to trade papers about Art being accused of imitating the style of another artist (Jack Smith).

1926, Mar. 16 piano on

New York: records 4 titles for Columbia accompanied by Lew Pollack first; Horace Seavey, brass bass:

141802-2 In Your Green Hat (Lew Pollack, piano)

(Yellen - Ager)

Col 614-D

Col 0501 (Australia)

141803-2 Let's Make Up

141803-3 *Let's Make Up*

(Golden - Albert)

Col 892-D

141804-1-2 You're The One I'm Looking For

(Schultz - Davis)

not issued

141805-1 *I Can't Keep You Out Of My Dreams* (2 takes)

(Wolf - Fain - Kahal)





1926, Mar. 17 piano and

New York: records 5 titles for Columbia accompanied by Francis Spur, Horace Seavey brass bass:

141159-4 *Hello, Little Girl Of My Dreams* (2 takes)

(Lew Berk)

Col 737-D (resumed from October 19, 1925)

141814-2 I'd Climb The Highest Mountain

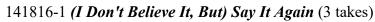
(Clare - Brown)

Col 626-D

141815-2 He Ain't Done Right By Nell

(Howard - Mack - Gallager)

Col 657-D



(Abner Silver)

Col 626-D



(Therrien - Verges - LeClair)

Col 0501 (Australia)

New York: records 4 titles for Columbia with Louis Hooper or Francis Spur, piano, Horace Seavey, brass bass:

141823-1-2 It Don't Do Nothin' But Rain (LH)

(Phil Cook)

not issued (resumed on March 29, 1926)

141824-2 *I'm Leaving You* (FS)

(Leslie Maisto)

Col 685-D

141825-1-2 If You're Old Fashioned, Your Long Underwear (FS)

(Heath - Fletcher - Marr)

not issued

141826-1-2 *Crying Again* (FS)

Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)







1926, Mar. 18

not issued (resumed on March 29, 1926)

141827-1-2 *The Waltz We Love*

(Arnold Lambert)

not issued (resumed on March 29, 1926)

140728-4-5 Page Mr. Handy (Art plays guitar)

(Willard Robison)

not issued (resumed from June 25, 1925)

1926, Mar. 20

Kansas City, Mo: broadcast over WDAF. T.H. Scott of Tasma, New Zealand sent a cable that he heard the broadcast clearly. Art is reported to have broadcast from 208 stations.

1926, Mar. 20

Music Trade Indicator, p 31: "Art Gillham Declares He Is A Victim Of Unfair treatment"; mentions a new artist (Whispering Jack Smith) 'dug up' by Victor to compete with him; has broadcast from 208 radio stations. Others were Jim Brown the Whispering Tenor (possibly a pseudonym for Billy Jones); Billy



Art Gillham Declares He Is Victim of Unfair Treatment

Tells His History in Interesting Letter

Art Gillham, the "whispering pianist," believes he is the object of unfair treatment. In a letter to this paper he says:

"While broadcasting from the old Drake Hotel Radio Station (WDAP) in Chicago, during December, 1922, I found that my voice carried just as well, and my 'patter' registered more effectively when I used a low, intimate, conversational tone. I adopted this method of broadcasting and have used it continually ever since.

"In May, 1923, I started on my first tour of

used it continually ever since.

"In May, 1923. I started on my first tour of radio stations. On February 23, 1924, 1 worked from station WSB, Atlanta, Georgia, and the following day Lambdin Kay, "The Little Colonel," the station announcer, who was also, at that time, radio editor of the Atlanta Journal, wrote an article for his paper about me, using my photograph, and headed his story "The Whispering Painist"—thus christening me with the radio title that I have since used continuously in my radio work and on Columbia phonograph records.

"To date I have broadcast from 208 radio sta-

and on Columbia phonograph records.

"To date I have broadcast from 208 radio stations throughout the country (by actual count), and I have obtained some degree of popularity because of my work. I have just returned from my latest trip, during which I have frequently been accused of adopting and imitating the style of a certain other radio and phonograph artist who has come into the field during the last six months and is using both a billing title and a broadcasting method similar to those used by me.

"I have received word from good authority that this new artist was 'dug up' and promoted for the prime purpose of competing with me and affecting the sale of my phonograph records.

"In the interest of fair play, and in justice to me, I respectfully ask that you publish this letter, ao that your readers who know me and my work will have the correct facts, and realize that I am not an imitator, or impostor, nor am I profiting by the ability, popularity, and hard work of anoth-

er artist."

Mr. and Mrs. Gillham are in New York for

They have just returned from a six months' They have just returned from a six months? radio tour which carried them through the south and middle west. On their return trip they broad-cast from Washington, D. C., and had the distinction of being received by President Calvin Coolidge at the White House March 2, through the offices of Senator "Jim" Watson of Indiana, a life-long friend of Mrs. Gillham's.

"Art" presented the President with four of his recent Columbia records, and in turn received Mr. Coolidge's congratulations upon his work.

Coolinge's congratulations upon his work.

Art Gillham is now completing his fourth year
of radio whispering activity, and is one of the
popular radio artists of the country. His interesting style of work has been commented upon
in the many cities where he has appeared, and
his successful entertainment has given rise to

New York: records 3 titles for Columbia: 1926, Mar. 22

141835-1-2-3 *Gone*

(Joe Burke)

not issued

141836-1-2 I Don't Want To Forget

(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)

not issued (resumed October 26, 1926)

141837-2 I Wish I Had My Old Gal Back Again (3 takes)

(Yellen - Ager - Pollack)

Col 685-D

1926, Mar. 29 New York: records 4 titles for Columbia:

141166-7 Just Waiting For You (3 takes)

(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)

Col 771-D (resumed from March 19, 1926)

141823-4 It Don't Do Nothin' But Rain (3 takes)

(Phil Cook)

Col 657-D (resumed from March 18, 1926

141826-5 *Crying Again* (3 takes)

(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)

Col 771-D (resumed from March 18, 1926)

141827-3-4 *The Waltz We Love*

(Arnold Lambert)

not issued (resumed from March 18, 1926)

Phonograph and Talking Machine Weekly: "Art Gillham, well known "whispering pianist" of Columbia recording and radio fame, is one of the best exploiters of songs, according to Joe (Davis). On Art's recent trip to New York, he recorded a trio of Triangle tunes for Columbia, "It Don't Do Nuthin' But Rain," "I'm Leaving You," and "I Don't Want To Forget." Art previously made "You're More Than A Pal To Me," one of Joe Davis' ballads, said to be one of the most

successful discs he has ever made."

Phonograph and Talking Machine Weekly. "Joe Davis, genial head of Triangle Music Pub. Co., Inc, New York, has just disclosed that he will soon start work on a new fox trot ballad, entitled, "I'm Leaving You," written by Bartley Costello and Louis Maisto. It has already been recorded for the Columbia Phonograph Co., by Art Gillham...The song will round out a quintet of Triangle sellers, the other four being, "It Don't Do Nuthin' But Rain," "Honeymoon Waltz," "You're More Than Pal To Me," and "Hot Coffee."









1926, Apr

1926, Apr

1926, April 17



Joe Davis

1926, April 20-21

Music Trade Review: recording Triangle Music songs. Art apparently became a song plugger for Joe Davis' music publishing. Art had several Triangle and broadcast and recorded a songs published by Joe Davis and Joe Davis Triangle songs and is mention in the biography of Joe Davis.

Three Triangle Recordings

Art Gillham, known as the whispering pianist, has recorded three Triangle Music Publishing Co. numbers for the Columbia records. They are "It Don't Do Nothin' But Rain," "I'm Leaving You" and "I Don't Want to Forget." Gillham is an exclusive Columbia record artist and his solo records have won wide popularity.



Whispering Pianist Will

Be at WFBM Two Nights

Art Gillham, the whispering pianist, who is entertaining, Tuesday and Wednesday nights from WFBM, was the first artist to use an original style of delivery, and now he claims that his work is being copied

nal style of delivery, and now he claims that his work is being copied and is seeking some means whereby he can protect himself.

"Imitation may be the sincerest form of flattery," says Gillham, "but when I go into a town and some one tells me that I am imitating the style of somebody else it just burns me up."

Art Gillham has been entertaining radio audiences and phonograph record buyers with his intimate, confidential, whipering style since he found while working from the old Drake hotel station (WDAP), Chicago, in December 1922, that it was not necessary to shout into the radio microphone. He was the first aritst to whisper his songs in such a low voice that those standing in the studio with him could not hear what was being said.

His voice has carried from various parts of the United States to all parts of the world. He started on his first tour of radio stations in May, 1925, and has broadcast from 208 stations by actual count.

Lambdin Kay, well-known announcer from station WSB, Atlanta, first called Art Gillham "The Whispering Pianist" in an article in the Atlanta Journal February 24, 1924, and since then this billing has been used.

His style of entertainment is entirely different from that used by other artists. He has created a character that has become a most pleasing feature, and one known all over the country.

What a good-natured prevaricator Art Gillham is. He said he didn't feel any better last night, then sang "Bye Bye Blues."

Indianapolis, IN WFBM

If you didn't hear Art it's your own fault, so we picked this out of the air for you: "I asked my girl to marry me, and right away she turned me down and said my face would scare our kids to death. Then she asked me how much I'd charge to haunt a house." Then Art went out to get his cup of coffee. Art is on WJAS at 1:15 afternoons and 11 nights the rest of the week.

Louisville: WHAS



1926, Apr. 21 April 15.

Phonograph and Talking Machine Weekly - on cover. Also April 7, inside

WHAS Saturday, May I. Saturday, May I.

1.15 P.M.—Closing New York
Stock Exchange quotations, from
J. B. Hillard & Son.
1.16 P.M.—Concert from
WHAS Extension Studio at the
Seelbach Hotel by the Benson
Trio
5 to 2:15 P.M.—Tr Gillham, the
whispering planist.
5 to 3:15 P.M.—The Dixle Wonders.
Rowland Edward Yarbra, piano,
director: Joe HITZ, saxophone,
the Budde McCracken, drums;

1926, May 1-3

1926, May 6-10

Cincinnati WLW

1926, May 7

Columbia ad 614-D

Gillham—The Minstrel of the Air

Art Gillham has added to his titles, that of "The Modern Minstrel of the Air," because of his constant touring of radio stations. The Whispering Pianist presents "In Your Green Hat" in an entirely different style than that usually used for such songs. His intimate, conversational tone adds a touch that is not usually found in the work of other artists. The coupling is a prefly little ballad of the kind that Art takes delight in singing.

\$14-D 10 75c-In Your Green HatThe Whispering Pianist (Art Gillham) It's Too Late to Be Sorry Now Whispering Pianist (A. Gillham)

1926, May 12

Columbus, Oh: engagement. Staying at Jefferson Hotel. Telegram in Art's scrapbook regarding engagement the week of May 30, in Nashville, has handwritten notation: "first engagement as Whispering Pianist" in a personal appearance. Telegram from Ace Beary: "Have set Nashville for you week May

thirthieth at three fifty..."



However the ads do not reflect billing as Whispering Pianist.

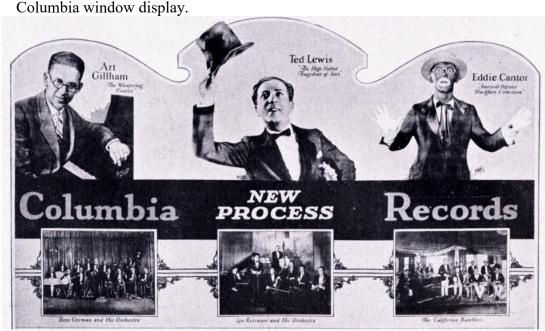
1926, May 13 Art,

Talking Machine World: Columbia Records full page ad features photos of Ed Smalle, Ruth Etting, Blossom Seely and Johnny Marvin.

1926, May 15

Talking Machine World: Columbia Records ad with photos of Art Gillham, Ed Smalle, Ruth Etting, Johnny Marvin and Blossom Seeley.

1926, May 15







The Phonograph + Talking Machine Weskly and The Talking Machine and Radio Weekly has the largest circulation of all the music trade papers subcribed for by music dealers over the 4.8.

1926, May 16

Cleveland comparison of Gillham and Smith.

"Don't be a Fool, You Fool" is the touching sentiment expressed in one of the latest recordings of Jack Smith, "the whispering barltone," as released this week by Victor. The supposedly feminine monologue, done in the manner made familiar over the radio by Art Gillham and others, would indicate that friend husband is something of a case, but that the monologist "knows her onlons." The reverse, also by Smith, is "Poor Papa," so the record gives a hard jolt to masculinity.

5

1926, May 21

Columbia ad 614-D

Art Gillham, one of the best known radio performers in the land known as "the whispering pianist" will be on the bill to greet those who have already heard him over the loud speaker from station WJZ of New York and on one occasion for an hour over the local WSM station. Art will be at the Capitol in person all week, appearing on the stage four times daily, at 2, 4, 7 and 9 p. m.

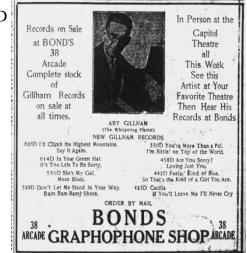
1926, May 24

Nashville: It is announced Art will be at the Capitol Theatre next week.

1926,May 26

Columbia ad 626-D











1926, May 30

Nashville: He was paid for a week at \$350.00 (\$4820 in 2018 dollars). Art's notation indicates this is his first personal appearance using the title Whispering Pianist. However prior article on March 20, indicates he has used the title on radio and he used it on radio and records from February, 1924.

1926, June

Record released: Columbia 614-D.

1926, June

Sidney, Australia: Columbia imported 20 record presses to begin pressing records in Australia. First Columbia record pressed in Australia was Art Gillham.

1926, June

Columbia Supplement reviews Columbia 614-D, recorded in March: "Art Gillham has added to his titles that of 'The Modern Minstrel of the air', because of his frequent touring of radio stations. The Whispering Pianist presents *In Your Green Hat* in an entirely different style than that usually used for such songs. His intimate conversational tone adds a touch that is not usually found in the work of other artists."

1926, July

Record released: 626-D.

1926, July

Phonograph and Talking Machine Weekly. "Art Gillham Leaves Message For 'Weekly' Readers In Trade: During his recent trip to New York to make records for the Columbia Phonograph Co., Art Gillham, "The Whispering Pianist," exclusive Columbia artist and radio headliner, divulged an interesting secret. 'While listening to my latest Columbia record,' said Art, 'which is No. 657-D, 'He Ain't Done Right By Nell' and 'It Don't Do Nuthin' But Rain,' I discovered that I had subconsciously stolen a few lines of a ditty from Lew Fitzpatrick, dean of jesters of station WJR, Detroit. I needed a few lines to fill my record between choruses, so I unthinkingly used Leo's little nut song. In the type of records I am making, it keeps a fat boy like myself stepping fast on the snowshoes to get material and I think it might interest record purchasers if they knew where the 'hokum' in my o record came from."

1926, July

Now as

1926, July 8

Sidney, Australia: Columbia's first Australian pressing began with Art Gillham's Australian Columbia 0501, In Your Green Hat/It's Too Late To Be Sorry the first Australian Columbia 10 inch record issued

New York: records 2 titles for Columbia:

142376



GRAFONOLA. LTD.,
strongly recommend these
TWO SPLENDID NUMBERS
AN New Process. Non-scratch
COLUMBIA RECORDS,
10-INCH. DOUBLE-SIDED 4 EACH.
374b.—Smile All the While. Art Gillham.
(Whispering Planist)
I Had Someone Else Before I Had You.
Art Gillham
(Whispering Planist)
3747.—Caroline Sweetheart. Wailin.
Dark Hawatian Eyes. Foa-Trot.
Tylo-Rimbe Orchestra
Obtainable at all High-class Music Stores.

GRAFONOLA, LTD.,
Commerce Buildings,
So Liverpool-street,
So Liverpool-street,
Box 2070NN, G.P.O.
ALWATS USE COLUMBIA NEEDLES.

142376-2 *Tenderly*

142376-3 *Tenderly*

((Lyman - Dale)

Col 710-D

Col 0534 (Australia)

142377-2 *Thinking* (3 takes)

(Ohman - Morgans)

Col 710-D

Col 0534 (Australia)



1926, July 12

Australia ad

On October 20, 1930, the master of *Thinking* was dubbed on to a transcription designated Paul Tremaine Programs (master no 99556-2)

1926, July 15

Chicago

Art Gillham, the "whispering pianist," Columbia record artist, recently spent a day in Chicago visiting his friends in the various broadcasting stations and calling at the Columbia branch office.

1926, July 21

Phonograph And Talking Machine Weekly front cover is Columbia Records ad featuring Art Gillham and Columbia 657-D. Art is quoted as saying the hokem in **He Ain't Done Right By Nell** came from Leo Fitzpatrick



1926, July 24 Columbia ad 657-D

1926, Aug Record released: Columbia 657-D

1926, Sept Record released: Columbia 685-D.

1926, Sept. Phonograph And Talking Machine Weekly, p 45. Columbia Records ad

1926, Sept. Vocalstyle Supplement

Recent visitors to the Vocalstyle plant included Mr. Billy Fairman and Mr. and Mrs. Reichert, of the Blue Bird Mus.c Co., Inc., Dayton, Ohio. Mr. Fairman is the composer of "Lonely," a new song hit just finished. This number was played for Vocalstyle by Art Gillham and will be released in the very near future. While here the party entertained with piano playing by Mr. Reichert and singing by Mrs. Reichert.

Mr. and Mrs. Art Gillham spent a couple of days at the Vocalstyle studios recently. Art played a number of pieces while here. They will be announced in a later publication. In the meantime, we'll have to ask you to be patient until all the vacationists return.

1926, Sept 17 Columbia ad 710-D

Art Gillham Divulges a Deep-hued Secret

Tells the Tale of How He Secured Some of the Material in His Latest Columbia Release and How It Went Over

During his recent trip to New York to make new records for Columbia, Art Gillham, "The Whispering Pianist," exclusive Columbia artist and radio and moving picture theatre headliner, divulged an interesting little secret.

liner, divulged an interesting little secret.

"I just listened," said Art, "to my latest Columbia release No. 657-D, which is 'He Ain't Done Right by Nell,' on one side and 'It Don't Do Nothing But Rain,' on the other. The first selection takes me back to some of the ideas that I put into that record. You know traveling radio artists hear and see a lot of funny things in their travels from station to station.

"During my last stay at WJR, Detroit, where the Merry Old Chief, Leo Fitzpatrick, holds sway over his jesters, I heard Leo do a song in front of the microphone which he did not think meant anything. He called this little conglomeration of hokum 'play.' The idea stuck with me and while I was making 'He Ain't Done Right by Nell,' at the Columbia laboratories in New York, my mind wandered back to WJR and I used Leo Fitzpatrick's little nut song to fill up my record between choruses.

"In the type of records I am making, it keeps a fat boy like myself stepping fast on the snow-shoes to get material and sometimes I have to get it from something some one else does; so I think it might interest record lovers to know that Leo Fitzpatrick is responsible for the amusing 'hokum' in the Columbia record No. 657-D."

"THINKING"

Art Gillham's Latest and Best

With

Three Snappy Dance Hits Compose

COLUMBIA'S

Latest Release

The Only Record Without Scratch Get These at

White Music Co.

"WHISPERING PIANIST" AT .. IMPERIAL THEATER

The first instance of radio plagiarism has recently been uncovered, and is causing considerable comment among musicians, songsters, and en-tertainers who depend upon their work "over the air" for their liveli-

Art Gillham (the Whispering Pianist), who is at the Imperial this week, was the first artist to use an original style of delivery, and now he claims that his work is being copled and is seeking some means whereby he can protect himself.

"Imitation may be the sincerest form of fattery", says Gillham, "but when I go into a town and someone tells me that I am imitating the style of somebody else, it just burns me up". Art Gillham has been entertaining radio audiences and buyers of Coof somebody else, it just burns me up". Art Gillham has been entertaining radio audiences and buyers of Columbia Phonograph Records with his in:mate, confidential, whispering style, since he discovered while working from the Old Drake Hotel Station. (W. D. A. P.) Chicago, in December, 1922, that it was not necessary to shout into the radio microphone. He was the first artist owhisper his songs in such a low voice that those standing in the studio with him could not hear what was being said. His voice has carried from various parts of the United States to all parts of the world, and he is the recipient of letters from such far away places as Australia, New Zealand and Japan, from fans who have heard him work and who liked his style. He started on his first tour of radio stations in May, 1923, and to date has broadcasted from 208 stations by actual count.

Lambdin Kay, the well known announced from station W. S. B. Atlanta, Georgia, first called Art Gillham "The Whispering Planist." In an article written for the Atlanta Journal on February 24, 1024, and since then this billing has been used.

His style of entertainment, on both radio and photograph records, is en-

then this billing has been used.
His style of entertainment, on both radio and photograph records, is entirely different from that used by other artists. He has created a character that has become one of the most pleasing features on air programs, and one that has become known all over the country.

1926, Sept 26





1926, Sept 24 Columbia ad 685-D and 710-D

AT THE ALDINE

Beach's "Padlocked" trancing in its screen form is the current show at the Aldine Theatre, where with enjoyable stage embellishments, it has played this entire week.

The title "Fig Leaves" goes with the drama of love and luxury that constitutes the chief offering of the program for the ensuing week. It has a popular pair of stars in George O'Brien and Olive Borden, who are headed for still greater fame as a pair of popular players.

Peterson and Charlott, two specialty dancers of exquisite grace, and Art Gillham, the whispering planist, are offered as stage embellishments to this attractive photoplay.











1926, Oct.

Columbia Supplement reviews Columbia 710-D, recorded in July: "The Whispering Love-Maker - Art Gillham. This record makes Art the world's champion indoor and outdoor, daylight and after dark whispering love maker. Art made a special trip to Columbia's New York recording Laboratories to get *Tenderly* and *Thinking* off his mind and onto the wax. The last named required a lot of effort on Art's part."

1926, Oct.

Columbia Supplement reviews Columbia 710-D, recorded in July: "The Whispering Love-Maker - Art Gillham. This record makes Art the world's champion indoor and outdoor, daylight and after dark whispering love maker. Art made a special trip to Columbia's New York recording Laboratories to get *Tenderly* and *Thinking* off his mind and onto the wax. The last named required a lot of effort on Art's part."

1926, Oct 5

Talking Machine World:

Syracuse Columbia Branch Reports Increasing Demand

SYRACUSE, N. Y., October 5.—E. N. Smith, manager of the local branch of the Columbia Phonograph Co., reports an increased demand for the entire line of Columbia products with a lamentable lack of Viva-tonal phonographs to meet the dealers' orders. Records are also continuing to sell briskly. Charles Stinson, of the New York City Columbia headquarters, was a recent visitor, and Art Gillham, the Whispering Pianist, also dropped in during the Summer.

1926, Oct 8

Columbia ad 737-D

1926, Oct. 18

New York: records 5 titles for Columbia, accompanied by Bob Bagar, piano and Horace Seavey, brass bass:

141836-4 *I Don't Want To Forget* (3 takes)

141836-5 I Don't Want To Forget

(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)

Col 842-D (resumed from March 22, 1926)

142831-1-2-3 *Just A Little Longer*

(Irving Berlin)

not issued (resumed on November 8, 1926)

142832-1-2-3 Red Hot Flo From Kokomo

(Bagar - Blake)

not issued

142833-2 Brokenhearted

142833-3 Brokenhearted

(Lombardo - Lewis - Whiting)

Col 972-D

142834-2 If I Get A Sweetie Now (no Bob Bagar)

142834-3 *If I Get A Sweetie Now* (no Bob Bagar)

(Billy Smythe - Larzeleve - Art Gillham)

Col 972-D

WFBH-NEW YORK-273

4 p. m.—Laura Jarvis, songs.
4:30 p. m.—Mike Jackson, songs.
5:15 p. m.—'Fashions in Hats."
5:10 p. m.—Carlotta Irwin, "Dissertion."
6 p. m.—Kennedy's Orchestra.
6:45 p. m.—Ethel Zimmerman, songs.
7 p. m.—Syncopators and the Newlyweds.
8 p. m.—Health talk.
8:15 p. m.—Majastic Ensemble.
8:45 p. m.—Radio Franks.
9 p. m.—H. Hirschon, "Olympic Games."
9:15 p. m.—Art Gillham, pianist.
10 p. m.—L. Meserindind, violinst,
10:15 p. m.—Grancesca Cuce, soprano.
10:30 p. m.—Trianon Orchestra.
11:30 p. m.—Dance orchestra.

1926, Oct 18-22

New York: WFBR 9:15

1926, Oct. 19

New York: records 6 titles for Columbia, accompanied as shown by Peter deRose

or Sid Wolf, piano, Horace Seavey, brass bass:

142839-1 *Broken-Hearted Sue* (Peter de Rose) (3 takes)

(Breen - Peter de Rose - Paskin)

Col 842-Dbeasley

142840-3 *Pretty Little Thing* (Sid Wolf & H. Seavey)

(Tobias - Rose - Dubin)

Col 1051-D

Col 0761 (Australia)

142841-3 Things That Remind Me Of You

(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)

Col 892-D

142842-3 I'm Missing The Kissing of Someone

(Davis - Bibo - Art Gillham)

Col 1472-D

142843-2 I'm Only Another To You

142843-3 I'm Only Another To You

(Johnson - White)

Col 955-D

142844-1-2-3 *I'm Drifting Back To Dreamland* (piano solo)

(Harrison - Charlesworth - Sadler) (a Ted Browne song)







not issued (resumed on Nov 3, 1926)

1926, Oct 20 Columbia ad 737-D







1926, Nov Record released: Columbia 737-D.

1926, Nov. Columbia Records Monthly Supplement – .

1926, Nov Talking Machine World:

"The Whispering Pianist (Art Gillham) records are selling extremely well, and sales in the Newport News and Norfolk territory were considerably increased by his appearance there. The Columbia Music Shop had Mr. Gillham appear personally in the store, and drew a very large crowd. Mr. Gillham autographed a great many records, which found instant sale.

1926, Nov

Talking Machine World:

Appearance of Art Gillham, Columbia artist, in Rochester recently, stimulated sales of his records. Mr. Gillham visited dealers, autographed his records and in many instances sang with the Viva-tonal playing his records, in a comparative test. The Royal Mount Ash

1926, Nov. 3

New York: records 3 titles for Columbia, accompanied by Abner Silver, piano on Silver's composition:

142831-4 *Just A Little Longer* (3 takes)

(Irving Berlin)

Col 806-D (resumed from October 18, 1926

142844-4 I'm Drifting Back To Dreamland (piano solo) (3 takes)

142844-5 I'm Drifting Back To Dreamland (piano solo)

(Harrison - Charlesworth - Sadler) (a Ted Browne song

Col 955-D

142904-3 *Rags* (piano by Abner Silver)

(Fain - Richman - Abner Silver)

Col 806-D

1926, Nov 12

Columbia ad 710-D

1926, Nov 20

New York WMCA

wsol, musical program; wTAM, vaudeville program.
9:15 p. m.—WBZ, orchestra; WMCA, Art Gillham, dance music.

1926, Nov 27

Article with hint of pay of \$1000.00 a week (\$13,000 in 2018).

Other bands play for nothing willingly in order to enhance their fame so that they can cash in on vaudeville, picture house, record and cafe engagements. This is applicable to other "attractions" as well, and there are dozens of instances where bands that could not demand \$1,000 weekly have made themselves worth \$8,000 weekly via radio, and men and women "singles" have run their value on the stage up from little or nothing to more than \$1,000 per week.

Among such may be

Meek.

Among such may be mentioned discharge of the control of the

1926, Dec. 1

The Metronome pp 34-35: "Art Gillham The Whispering Pianist". Article notes has received over 65,000 letters, and received as many as 300 telegrams during an evening's radio performance. It also reports on his West Coast tour he flew to San Francisco to broadcast at KPO and had to use a portable organ at the air field to get on the air at the appointed time.

Cape

nack

Art Gillham, Whispering Pianist

A SK any radio fan if he has heard "The Whispering Pianist" and nine out of ten will answer "Yes." Few however, know that his real name is Art Gillham. He is one of the best known of those traveling Radio Artists who are the present day counterparts of the ancient minstrels of "Merrie" England. He has worked at over two hundred radio stations throughout this country, and, like the chaps of old who meandered over the country with their guitars, singing their songs at wayside gatherings, he keeps moving North, East, South and West, playing the piano and whispering his songs through the microphone. However, his voice reaches as many

calls himself "a broken down piano player, trying to get by," says "go to work fingers," and whispers his own and other songs that have made him so popular.

The truth is, Art is about the length of two yardsticks, just a trifle wider, a little heavier, and is neither bald nor broken down. Those who listen in will attest to the last, at least. Art writes many of his songs and is famous for his "do-di-da-do" vamp while playing jazzy, snappy melodies. "Hesitation Blues" was Art's first song, written over fifteen years ago with Billy Smythe of Louisville, Kentucky, and Smythe has been writing with Art ever since that time. In fact, all of the new tunes that Art is using on the air and



listeners in one night as the old trouba-

dors reached in a life-time.

As the Whispering Pianist, started broadcasting in December, 1922, at the Drake Hotel, Chicago. became popular almost over night. He was invited to other cities as a feature of radio programs and his vogue grew larger and larger until now he has become the chief drawing card on the programs of the principal broadcasting stations of the country. In some cases, Art has conducted the whole program as master of ceremonies. People who listened in on the election returns as broadcast from WEAF New York in 1924 will remember him as part of that all star program. Art has been engaged especially to help fill the bill.

Art was named the Whispering Pianist by Lambdin Kay, the popular announcer at WSB, Atlanta, Georgia, in February, 1924, because when he broadcasts, he practically whispers into the microphone and though it is almost impossible for persons in the same room to hear him, his voice carries perfectly for thousands of miles. In fact, last March 20th, while at WDAF, Kansas City, Missouri, this whisper, hardly audible in the same room with the artist, was heard clearer than anything else on the program by T. H. Scott of Tasma, New Zealand, 7,400 miles from the station, who cabled in to this effect.

As his fingers ramble over the ivories. Art tells the story of his life, his struggle in transporting 375 pounds of superfluous flesh, his difficulties with his bald head, admits he can't sing,

WMCA, New York. At each appearance he worked for half an hour and that is said to establish a long distance record.

Those fans who own player-pianos will be glad to know that Art Gillham has been engaged to make rolls under

on records are written by this team, who specialize in what is called a sob ballad. Owing to the trials and tribulations that Art tells the customers about (in his attempts to get someone to love him) there is plenty of material to write quite a few of this type of song.

On Art's last western tour to the coast, he caused quite a sensation when he flew by plane to San Francisco to broadcast at KPO. He had to use a microphone and portable organ out on the field to get on the air at the appointed time. And when he arrived in Everett, Washington, to work at the station there (he started at Los Angeles and worked every station up the coast), the Everett Police Department decided that they wanted to hear him "in person" so they went to the radio station while he was working, arrested him (upon a fake charge). took him to the police station, locked him in a cell, moved in a piano and made him play his way to freedom. The newspapers say that Art never worked so hard before.

Of course Art gets a lot of mail from fans and to date the number of letters he has received total over 65,000. He has also received as high as 300 telegrams during one evening's program. So popular has he become with radio fans that he is an exclusive Columbia record artist and does the same "line of hokum" (as he calls it) on phonograph records as he does over the air.

Art has also hung up a record for a run at a radio station, having played for twenty-nine consecutive days at

the Duo-Art and Mel-O-Dee banners. The first number he recorded was "Idolizing," the new Sherman Clay hit. This roll is now released and it is considered a splendid example of Gillham's playing. There is little doubt that it will be a big seller.

1926, Dec. 1

Music Trades magazine, p 48, article announces Art to make Duo-Art and Mel-O-Dee piano rolls.

1926, Dec. 1

Phonograph and Talking Machine Weekly – Art is on the cover.



1926, Dec 3

Columbia ad 771-D

1926, Dec 10

Ads

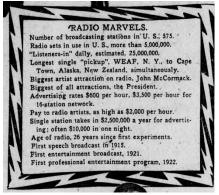
New Big Hit by Art Gillham, the whispering pianist.

Crying Again
Just Waiting for You
Hello Little Girl of My Dreams
I Can't Keep You Out of My
Dreams
I'm Leaving You
Wish I Had My Old Girl Back
Again
Too Late To Be Sorry Now
In Your Green Hat
You May Be Lonesome
I Had Someone Else Before I Had
You
I'd Climb the Highest Mountain
Say It Again



1926, Dec 10 Richmond visiting in-laws and for wife to record with Gennett

1926, Dec 30 Columbia ad 806-D



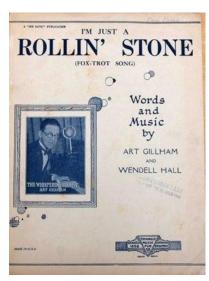




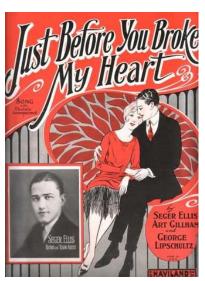
Sheet Music: *I'm Just A Rolling Stone*, Wendell Hall & Art Gillham.

Sheet Music, *Just Before You Broke My Heart*, George Lipschultz, Seger Ellis & Art Gillham, Haviland Music

Sheet Music: *Things That Remind Me Of You*, Billy Smythe & Art Gillham, Jack Mills Music



1927





1927, Jan. *Duo-Art Monthly*, p 10, has picture and paragraph about Art making Duo-Art reproducing piano rolls.

1927, Jan. Columbia made a slight adjustment to its Black label by adding the words "Viva-tonal Recording" and "Electrical Process".

1927, Jan Record released: Columbia 771-D.

1927, Jan 3

Art's wife, Delores Valesco recorded two sides for Gennett:

I Can't Believe That You're In Love With Me Gennett 6040

I Don't Want To Forget

Gennett 6040

1927, Jan 8

Music Trade Review - Art endorses Baldwin

Pianos

"The Whispering Pianist" Praises the Baldwin

Art Gillham Tells of the Satisfaction Afforded By That Instrument as a Medium for Expression In His Radio Broadcasting Programs

The Baldwin Piano Co. recently received an interesting letter from Art Gillham, well-known to radio fans throughout the country and to talking machine and player-piano owners as "The Whispering Pianist," in which Mr. Gillham said:

Columbia Records No. 771—Just Waiting for. You Crying Again -Thinking Tenderly 614—It's Too Late to be Sorry In Your Green Hat No. 626—I'd Climb Highest Mountain Bay It Again A beautiful new Waltz Num-her. The hit of the seuson No. 805-In a Little Spanish Town Town Trail of Dreams I. Bigel & Sons Open Evenings

for January Etude in C Minor Played By Impromptu Op. 90 N 3
Schubert.... Ernest Hutcheson Schubert..... Erne... March Heroique March Heroique Ignaz Friedman Schubert Sonata No. 39 Sonata No. 39
Scarletti.... Irene Scharrer
Tristan and Isolde
Wagner..... Ralph Leopold
New World Symphony
Doorak...... Rudolph Ganz Broken Hearted—Fox Trot
Levis... As Leith
Clap Yo Hands, from "Oh
Kay!"
Do — Do , from "Oh
Kay!"
Gershein ... Phil Ohman
Kay!
Gershein ... How I

How I Love rought of the friend Phil Ohman Idolizing—Fox Trot West. Art Gillham It Made You Happy Donaldson. Phil Oliman I've Lost All My Love For You Plantadoxi. Constance Mering Just One More Kles Monigomery. Pauline Alpert Monigomery.... Pauline Al The Little White House Dawling..... Rube Bla My Baby Knows How Daeis...

That's a Good Girl

Berlin Frank Banta
When You Waltz With the
One You Love
Berlin Comment

1927, Jan 10

Art's wife, Delores Valesco recorded three sides for

Gennett:

If I Hadn't You Gennett 6053

Charmaine Gennett 6032

Perhaps You'll Think Of Me Gennett 6032

1927, Jan 12

Art's wife, Delores Valesco recorded one side for

Gennett:

Just An Ivy Covered Shack Gennett 6053

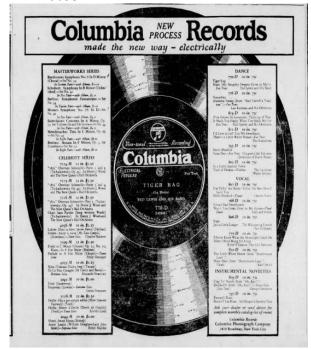
1927, Jan 13

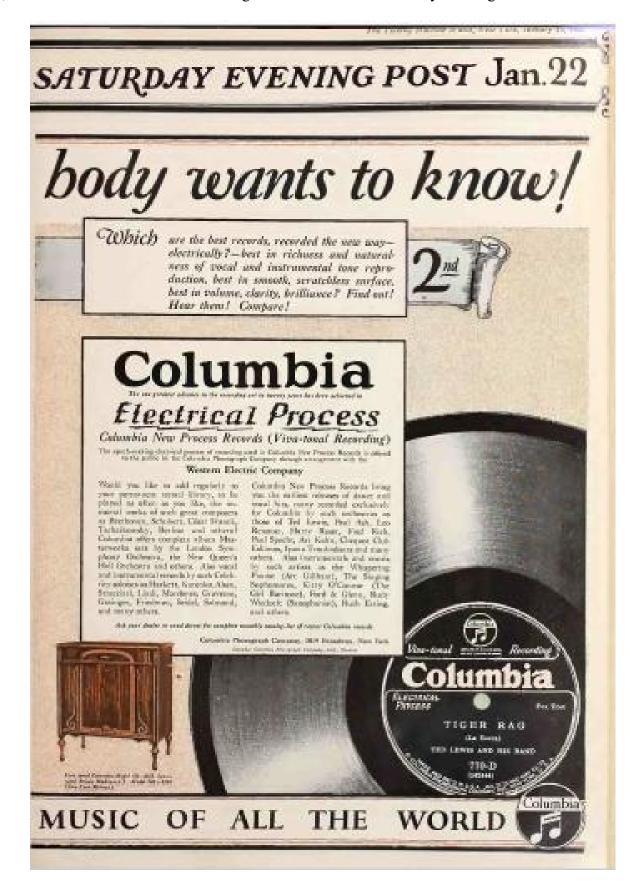
Columbia ad 806-D

1927, Jan 14

Columbia ad 771-D



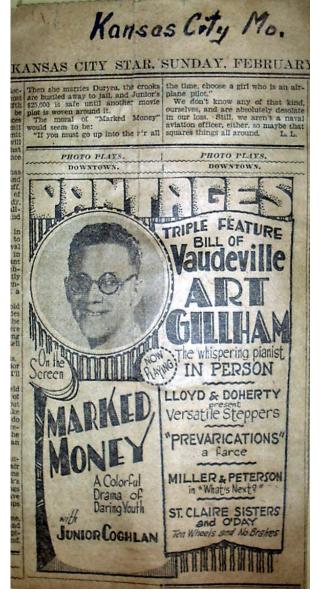




1927, Jan. 22 *Music Trades* magazine has photo of Art with large window display cutouts of an Art Gillham Duo-Art roll and an Art Gillham Columbia record.



1927, Feb Record released: Columbia 806-D.1927, Feb Kansas City, MO: Pantages





1927, Feb 15

Chicago: WEBH

FOR SALE — Art Gillham's record "Thinking." Columbia record No. 710-D. Cable Piano Co., 106 W. Main St.

1927, Feb 24

Columbia ad: 842-D

The Whispering Planist
Always in good form, Art

Always in good form, Art Gillham is at his best on this new Columbia Record. "I Don't Want to Forget" and "Broken-Hearted Sue" are wonderful examples of electrical recording.

No. 842-D Ten inch 750

Art Gillham Broadcasts

Art Gillham, the Columbia record artist known as the "Whispering Pianist" to his thousands of phonograph and radio admirers, was in Chicago broadcasting his more recent Columbia recordings over station WEBH. Mr. Gillham is an ardent Columbia booster and always is more than willing to do his part in popularizing his Columbia records. He made a personal appearance during his visit to the establishment of the Song Shop of Waterson, Berlin and Snyder, 26 West Monroe street, Chicago.

Nashville: WSM 11:00 pm

Nashville: WSM 11:00 pm

Record released: Columbia 842-D.

Delores Valesco record released

Gennett 6040 (I Don't Want To Forget/

I Can't Believe That You're In Love With Me

Memphis: WMC 9:30 pm

Columbia ad 0578 Australia

cords

at MOLLER'S

Also the very latest popular records, a few of which are disted below:

Made You Happy When You Made Me Cry

ake Up Art Gillham (The Wi

898-D Take Your Fingers 14195 Back-Water Preachin the

COME IN—HEAR BEETHOVEN'S MASTERWORKS on Columbia New Process Records. Complete stock to select

Pipe Organ Rec

s LeMaire's Affairs'') smland (From "Rufus Lel Ted Lewis and His Band

IRVING BERLIN'S LATEST

Pensacola WCOA

Art Gillham Will Broadcast Number

Several features are planned by Director Frenkel for the near future among them the appearance here on Mar. 23 of Art Gillham, the whispering planist, whose whispering piano solos on phonographs and on the air have made him a general favorite. Mr. Gillham is on

The fine art series of Musical Master Works is becoming more popular day by day in Chicago territory, with the dealers keenly enthusiastic regarding the musical qualities of these records and their sales possibilities. While in Chicago, Mr. Bergh arranged for important recording for the foreign languages record catalog and for a series of records by Art Kahn and His Orchestra and Art Gillham, the whispering pian-

Art Gillham, known to the radio au-Art Gilham, known to the radio audience as the "whispering planist," will appear in the studio of WSM, Nashville, at 10 o'clock tonight and also at the same time tomorow night. Art has been playing before the microphone since the early days of radio and was given his nom de plume by Lambdin Kay, the At-a-lan-ta annuncer. nouncer.

"WHISPERING PIANIST." Art Gilham, famous radio and Columbia record artist, gave the program for the Clarksville Civitan club at its luncheon today. He was guest of W. B. Black Mr. Gilham will broadcast Friday night over station WSM Nashville and was supported in his program here today by Mrs. Dorothy Councill, planist: Mrs. M. E. Burcheft. vocalist, and Miss Marv Kershner, violinist, Paul N. Rudoloh new president of the club, wielded the gavel for his first time

ART GILLHAM ON SOUTHERN BILL

Art Gillham, known far and wide as the "whispering planist," will be heard at WMC, Memphis, "Down In heard at WMC, Memphis, "Down In Dixie," on Monday night at 9:30 o'clock. The following night he will take the air at 9 o'clock. It was at WMC some three years ago that Mr. Gillham acquired a somewhat dilapidated cat about which he has told radio audiences all over the country, according to announcements.



1

927, Feb 25

1927, Feb 26

1927, March

1927, Mar 7

1927, March 20

1927, March 24

1927, Mar

GILLHAM TO PUT

MUSIC ON ETHER "Whispering Pianist" to Broadcast Over WCOA.

Art Gillham, the whispering pianist, arrived in Pensacola last night and will broadcast from might and will broadcast from WCOA local station, today from 12:30 o'clock until 10 c'lock and tonight from 8 o'clock until 9 o'clock. Gillham started broadcasting in 1922 and since that time has been in demand throughout the country. He was given the name of the whispers into the microphone and is hardly audible in the studio although his voice carries distinctly through the air.

In addition to his vocal performances Gillham holds an interesting monologue, telling his audience he's the original fat boy, weighs 376 pounds, is baldheaded and walks around the country in snow shoes.

a tour of the country.

Art Gillham, the whispering planist", broadcast from WCOA, local radio station, yesterday from 12:30 o'clock until 1 o'clock and again last night from 8 o'clock until 9 o'clock.

Gillham is Heard By WCOA Listener

In commenting on the local station, Mr. Gillham said that Pensacola is far ahead of any city its size in the country with regard to its radio station. He says that WCOA is more modernly equipped than other stations its size in the country.



Do You Know that all Art Gillham's songs on the Columbia record can be found at Harry Levine's, corner of Second and Washington streets .- Adv.

1927, March 29 Atlanta: WSB 6:00 pm and 11:45 pm

1927, March 30 Atlanta: WSB 11:45

1927, March 31 Atlanta WSB 6:00 pm

1927, April Meridian, Conn

WSB, ATLANTA.

Art Gillham, pianist.

7:00—School of the air 9:00—Cncert from WJZ.

-Art Gillham, pianist. WEEI, BOSTON.

240.242 North Market Street

1927, April Delores Valesco Gennett record 6053 released (Just An Ivy Colored Shack/If I Hadn't You)

1927. April Was one of the questions in syndicated "Ask Me Another" syndicated quiz.

1927, April 8 Columbia ad 892-D

1927, April 22 New Orleans Loew's State Theatre

ANSWERS TO "ASK ME" QUESTIONS

1. Stanford-Alabama football game, Pasadena, Cal., by the National Broadcasting company, Jan. 1, 1927.

2. President of the National Broadcasting company.

2. WEAO.

4. Lee DeForest.

5. WJAZ, Chicago.

6. McNamee, White, Hall.

7. Station RVOO, Bristow, Ok., uses this as a slogan.

8. A. H. Bellows, director of WCCO, Minneapolis-St, Paul.

9. Art Gilham, "The Whispering Planist."

10. Los Angeles, Baltimore, Zion, Ill., Richmond, Va., Clearwater, Fla.

1927, Apr. 25 New York: recorded 2 titles for Columbia, accompanied by Andy Sannella on steel guitar:

144044-1-2-3 Tonight You Belong To Me

(David - Rose)

not issued (resumed on May 16, 1927)

144045-1-2-3 I'm Waiting For Ships That Never Come In

(Yellen - Olman)

not issued (resumed on May 16, 1927)

1927, Apr. 26

New York: recorded 4 titles for Columbia, accompanied by Andy Sannella on alto sax, or by his "Southland Syncopaters", probable, as per Woody Backensto: Red Nichols, cornet; Miff Mole, trombone; Andy Sannella alto sax\clarinet/flute, Ben Selvin, violin, Harry Barth, bass, Rube Bloom, piano (other possibilities could be Jimmy Dorsey and/or Tommy Dorsey in place of Sannella or Mole.). Art has said that he had Red Nichols, Jimmy Dorsey and Tommy Dorsey on some of his recordings. Columbia files usually specify instruments, not individual musicians. Red Nichols identified himself on various Art Gillham records to Woody Backensto.

144048-1-2-3 *That Saxophone Waltz* (Sannella on alto sax)

(Sisk)

not issued (resumed on May 16, 1927)

144049-3 *I Crave You* (SS)

(Hibbeler - Geise)

Col 1007-D

Col 0728 (Australia)

144050-2 Twiddlin' My Thumbs (SS)

144050-3 Twiddlin' My Thumbs (SS)

(Rose - Mecum)

Col 1194-D

Col 0912 (Australia)







144051-1 Flutter By, Butterfly (SS)

144051-3 Flutter By, Butterfly (SS)

(Stanley - Layten)

Col 1116-D

Col 0816 (Australia)

1927, Apr. 27

New York: recorded 3 titles for Columbia, accompanied by his "Southland Syncopators" probable, as per Woody Backensto: Red Nichols, cornet; Miff Mole, trombone; Andy Sannella alto sax\clarinet/flute, Ben Selvin, violin, Harry Barth, bass, Rube Bloom, piano as on the previous day:

144056-1 *Now I Won't Be Blue* (SS)

144056-2 *Now I Won't Be Blue* (SS)

(Art Gillham)

Col 1253-D

Col 01017 (Australia)

144057-2 *I'd Walk A Million Miles* (SS)

144057-3 I'd Walk A Million Miles (SS)

(Lewis - Marks)

Col 1116-D

Col 0816 (Australia)

144058-1 *I Love You But I Don't Know Why* (SS) (3 takes)

144058-2 I Love You But I Don't Know Why (SS)

(Malie - Chapman)

Col 1152-D

Col 0950 (Australia)

1927, April 29 Richmond, IN: Art's wife made two recordings under the name Dolores Valesco:

X0X29 I Crave You

Gennett 6152

X0X30 Now I Won't Be Blue

Gennett 6152

1927, April 29 Columbia ad 892-D

1927, May Record released: Columbia 892-D

1927, May New York







1927, May

Delores Valesco article Talking Machine World

1927, May 4

New York, Art records 4 titles for Columbia, accompanied by Eddie King on piano on last title:

144087-1 *The Pal You Left At Home* (3 takes)

144087-2 The Pal You Left At Home

(Cullings - Alton)

Col 1194-D

Col 0912 (Australia)

144088-2 *I Could Waltz On Forever With You, Sweetheart* (3 takes)

(Baskette - Bennett)

Col 1081-D

Col 0812 (Australia)

144089-1-2-3 What A Wonderful Night This Would Be

(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)

not issued (resumed on May 16, 1927)

144090-3 Just *Before You Broke My Heart* (E. King) (4 takes) (Segar Ellis - Lipschultz - Art Gillham)

Col 1152-D

Col 0950 (Australia)

1827, May 5 Columbia ad 892-D

1927, May 6 Columbia ad

1927, May 7 *Music Trade Review* Art will be recording

Triangle Music songs and his wife, Delores Valesco has recorded Triangle Music songs on Gennett.

Records Triangle Numbers

Art Gillham, the famous Whispering Pianist and exclusive Columbia record artist, has returned to New York following a five weeks' tour of the most important radio broadcasting stations of the country. While here Mr. Gillham will record fourteen numbers for the Columbia Co. Among these will be "Now I Won't Be Blue," "I'm Longing for My Old Gal Sal" and "I'm Only Another to You," songs published by the Triangle Music Publishing Co.

The Starr Piano Co., maker of Gennett records, has just signed for exclusive record renditions a popular singing artist, Dolores Valesco. Among her first releases will be "I Don't Want to Forget," "Pm Only Another to You" and "Now I Won't Be Blue," all publications of the Triangle Music Publishing Co.







24 South Palafox St.







1927, May 16

New York: recorded 7 titles for Columbia, accompanied by Andy Sannella, steel guitar or Rube Bloom on piano:

144044-5 *Tonight You Belong To Me* (A. Sannella)

144044-6 Tonight You Belong To Me (A. Sannella)

(David - Rose)

Col 1007-D (resumed from April 25, 1927)

Col 0728 (Australia)

144045-4 *I'm Waiting For Ships That Never Come In* (Sannella) 144045-5 *I'm Waiting For Ships That Never Come In* (Sannella)

(Yellen - Olman)

Col 1051-D (resumed from April 25, 1927)

Col 0761 (Australia)

144048-4 *That Saxophone Waltz* (Andy Sannella, alto sax)

144048-6 *That Saxophone Waltz* (Andy Sannella, alto sax)

(Sisk)

Col 1081-D (resumed from April 26, 1927)

Col 0812 (Australia)





144089-4 What A Wonderful Night This Would Be (3 takes)

144089-5 What A Wonderful Night This Would Be

(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)

Col 1253-D (resumed from May 4, 1927)

Col 01017 (Australia)

144152-2 *I'm Longing For My Old Gal Sal* (Rube Bloom)

144152-3 *I'm Longing For My Old Gal Sal* (Rube Bloom)

(Davis - Kortlander)

Col 1392-D

Col 01183 (Australia)

144153-1-2 *I Told You I'd Never Forget* (Rube Bloom)

(Breen - Peter de Rose - Hall)

not issued

1927, May 20 Columbia ad 955-D

1927, May 23 New York WMCA

1927, June Delores Valesco with Gennett (Talking Machine World)

1927, June Record released: Columbia 955-D.

1927, June New York records with Southland Syncopators

Art Gillham, Columbia Star, Records With Orchestra

Art Gillham, the "Whispering Pianist," Columbia recording and radio artist, on a recent visit to the recording studios of the Columbia Phonograph Co., New York, in addition to making eleven new recordings as the "Whispering Pianist," made six records accompanied by the Southland Syncopators. This new Exclusive Columbia organization is known as Art Gillham and His Southland Syncopators.

Delores Valesco Becomes Exclusive Gennett Artist

Favorite of Vaudeville and Radio Audiences Makes Number of Recordings for Gennett Catalog—Company Prepares Publicity Matter

The Starr Piano Co, recently announced a new exclusive Gennett recording artist in the person of Delores Valesco, who has long been



Delores Valesco
a favorite with vaudeville and radio audiences.
Miss Valesco is a native of Pt. Wayne, Ind.
The records made by Miss Valesco on a recent visit to New York recording studios of the
Starr Piano Co. reveal a voice with a warm,
sympathetic appeal. The Starr organization has
prepared a beautiful lobby display for use in
the theatres at which the artist is appearing.

"Whispering Pianist" and Wife Will Visit Here

Art Gillham. known all over the country by radio fans as the "Whispering Planist," an exclusive artist for one of the largest p onograph record producing companies, and Mrs. Gillham, a talented vocalist under exclusive contract for producing records with a Richmond company, will spend the coming weekend in Richmond as guests of Dr. and Mrs. C. L. Canada, 105 South Thirteenth street. Mrs. Gillham is known as Dolores Valesco in her singing work. The Gillhams live in Fort Wayne and are returning from New York where both made a number of new records. Mrs. Gillham is a sister of Dr. Canada, a local medical examiner for the Pennsylvania railroad.

1927, June

Columbia Supplement reviews Columbia 955-D, recorded in October, 1926: "When the Whispering Pianist (Art Gillham) sings *I'm Only Another To You*, thousands of girls who have heard him on Columbia New Process Records, the air and the stage will rise to object. Any girl who has ever listened to Art's whisper will never forget it. *I'm Drifting Back To Dreamland* is another appealing selection by this popular artist."

1927, June 16 Richmond, IN:

1927, July Record released: Columbia 972-D

1927, July

Radio Digest has an article "Art Gillham, The Whispering Pianist, Exposed" which includes a photo of Art, his wife "Delores Valesco" and of his two children. The article tells that Art and his wife had divorced and remarried and that he would begin making stage appearances with her. At this time their residence is Fort Wayne, IN.

:



1927, July

Columbia Supplement reviews Columbia 842-D, recorded in October, 1926: "And now The Whispering Pianist (Art Gillham) picks **Broken Hearted** as The vehicle to express his feelings. Perhaps Art really is broken hearted - because there are no more worlds for him to conquer. He's a hit on the stage, a sensation on the radio, and a favorite on Columbia New Process Records."

Art Begins Southern Theatre Tour

1927, July 28 1927, July Alexandria, LA: drawing:



1927, July

El Dorado, Arkansas: two days at the Majestic Theatre.

Wynn, Arkansas (Thursday)





1927, Jul 8 Kennett, MO: Palace Theater





HEAR ART GILLHAM The Whispering Pianist

Majestic Theater, July 11, 12, 13 Exclusive Columbia Record Artist

Ir. Gillham will autograph any of his records urchased in our Columbia Record Dept., beween the hours of 10 and 11:30 a. m. Monday, cuesday and Wednesday.

"61 YEARS OF FAITHFUL SERVICE"



HEAR
ART GILLHAM,
Whispering Planist
Majestic Theator, July 11, 12, 13
Exclusive Columbia Record Artist.
We Have His Records.

Pfeifens

Starting Monday the Majestic will present two headliners, Art Gillham. the Columbia recording artist and radio entertainer and Billy Taylor and Katherine Morris, assisted by the Moore Sisters in "I'm the Guy."

MA)ESTIC

Treet Times Today

"The Parisiennes"

Cully & Claire
Manette Weber
CARRICK'S
ORCHESTRA

4 SHOWS TODAY

VAUDEVILLE
2:30, 4:30, 6:45 and 9

J. C. MACK & CO.

Saul Brillant and Company

Chas. & Billy Walsey

On the Screen
"TARZAN AND THE
GOLDEN LION"

Coming Monday

ART GILLHAM

"The Whispering Pianist"
Columbia Recording Artist and
Radio Star.
OTHER BIG ACTS



Last Times Today

ART GILLHAM
The Whispering Pianist
COLUMBIA
RECORDING ARTIST

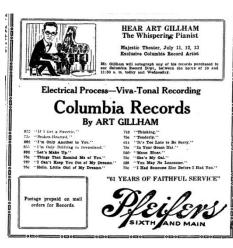
BILLIE TAYLOR
With
Katherine Morris
Assisted by
MOORE SISTERS

LIONEL ("MIKE") AMES

THE DAVIDS

On the Screen
"A Captain's Courage"
OTHER FEATURES







1927, July 14 travelling: Wynne, Ark to Memphis



Memphis: at Loew's State Theatre for a week. Memphis *Commercial Appeal* full age ad, p 16.



THIS WEEK IN MEMPHIS DAY BY DAY

MONDAY

Engineers Club, 12:15, Hotel Gayoso. Memphis Canvas Goods Ass'n., 12:15, Hotel

City Club Directors, 12:15, Hotel Gayoss Characters Builders, 12:15, Hotel Gayoso. Dance, Fair Grounds Lamar Orchestra. Swimming, East End Swimming Pool.

Optimist Club, 12:15, Hotel Claridge. Junior Chamber Commerce, 12:15, Hotel

Radio Bible Class, 12:15, Hotel Claridge. Rotary Club Lunch, 12:15, Hotel Peabody. Civitian Club, 12:15, Hotel Peabody. Exchange Club, 12:15, Hotel Peabody Lions Club, 12:15, Hotel Peabody.

WEDNESDAY

Trade Group, Wholesale Credit Men's Ass'n., 12:15, Hotel Gayoso. Co-Operative Club, 12:15, Hotel Claridge. ART GILLHAM.

Did you see that big parade last week? Some gang, eh! Well all that big commotion Some gang, eh! Well all that big commotion was over one, namely: Art Gillham, who blew into town on the wings of Inspector Griffin, Judge Cliff Davis, Captain Cole, Saul Bluestein of the Melody Music Shop, and Mr. Marx of the Radio Sales Co. All met this big Mr. Gillham at Wynne, Ark, last Thursday, and held the train up for twenty minutes to give the Wynneonians a sweet view of the Radio artist, and widely known whispering planist. known whispering planist.

A reception like this has never been given to an Artist in Memphis as yet Mr. Morse of the Union Station, sent a special car out to receive Mr. Gillham, and to give the reception in.

On arriving at Memphis at twelve noon, the big parade was formed at the Union Station, where the many cars formed in a line to proceed to the court house, where Mayor Paine officially received the Artist and welcomed him to our city.

Art Gillham has been known over the country and we might say over the world as the whispering pianist, for the Columbia Recording Company, and his visit here is sponsored by the Mélody Music Shop, thru' the Radio Sales Co.;

thru the Radio Sales Co.;

The Memphis Public will have the opportunity of seeing this renowned artist at his favorite pastime all tols week at the Loew's State Theatre, where he will introduce many of the latest numbers that are out, or will come out on the Columbia Records in the very near future.

out, or will come out on the Columbia Records in the very near future.

Who does not like to play their victrola and when they wish that they were able to see the artist that produces such great stuff he captivates you on the record, you then can let your imagination become busy and see what he could do for you should you see him in person, to see the expressions run over his countenance, and to see your favorite artist is the ambition of many of the record collectors. Mr. Marx and Mr. Bluestein have made this possible for the Memphis lovers of Art Gillham Records to see and to hear Art Gillham in person.

While the artist is on his stay in Memphis he will live at the Chicah hotel where Mr. Ben Parker, Manager, and Mr. Watson, Assistant Manager, of the Hotel, have made every effort to see to the artist's wants. They have decorated a suite of rooms that are fit for the kings, and on his arrival, Mr. Gillham was so proud of his Memphis home that he assured the Chicah Staff he would send all his best triends to live with them while they were in Memphis.

Saenger

Vol. 1-No.16



elusette

July 25, 1927

Issued Weekly by MARION THEATRE, Clarksdale, Miss.

ART GILLHAM TO BE HERE IN PERSON TUESDAY

prence Vidor Finds "World at Her Feet"

To become a successful CO. orney or a successful Frence Vidor to solve in newest picture, "The orld at Her Feet," which ll be shown at the Marion eatre, Wednesday July 27. The problem, in real life, il solve itself, if only one tor is present, Miss Vidor clares. It all depends upthe temperament of the sband.

RE Ne Any wife can be suc-AR Cosful in business and in the home if the husband is a happy individual, not too exacting in his demands, wilsists. "But no wife can

you refessional life if her husshome each evening and those

"THE WHISPERING PIANIST" OF COLUMBIA RECORD FAME TO PLAY AT MARION THEATRE

An unusual and extraordinary opportunity awaits the a those patrons of the Marion when Art Gillham will make forth his first personal appearance here Tuesday, July 26. Mr. Gillham needs no introduction to the music lovers of Clarksdale, as his popularity is attested by the large num-

ber of Columbia Records sold in this neighborhood by the Clarksdale Furniture Company, who handle these records.

Back in August of 1922, someone dared Art Gillham to sing a song into the microphone at the Drake Hotel radio station in Chicago, Art was playing the piano for other artists to sing to. And the result was—The Whispering Pianist, a character known from coast to acter known from coast to coast, copied by dozens of radio and record artists, and listened to by thousands.

crophone being on the piano close to his lips. This manner of broadcasting (which he also uses to make his Colmbia Records) gives his voice that confidential appeal to the heart strings, that has made Gillham and his sentimental songs famous.

5, Ho-12:15,

He is a composer and most of his songs you hear are his own compositions.

Mr. Gillham will make three appearances here Tueslistened to by thousands.

Art traveled from station to appearing at the Marion, of station in December of the Marion, of the

COOL Thousands of Cubic Feet of Cool, Refreshing Breezes COOL Every Minute from Our Big Typhoon Cooling System

CLARKSDALE DAILY REGISTER

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, JULY

Hear ART GILLHAM at the MARION Tuesday



Art Gillham Is Not a Marred Man

But stands high among all the ladies just the same. There is one thing about which his mind is always made up and that is when boying presents for the ladies, it is S. S. S. "SILK STOCKINGS SURE." And always, it is Kayser he gives the preference. He knows the ladies are glad to get them, glad to wear them and glad to display them. For Example:

At \$1.59-

At \$1.95-

THE M. LANDAU CO.



"The Whisperimg Pianist"

JULY 26 **Autographed Records Free**





MEET ART GILLHAM The Whispering Pianist

In our sotre Tuesday afternoon, 4:30 to 5:30 Mr. Gillham will autograph any of his rec-ords purchased in our Columbia Record

Electrical Process—Viva-Tonal Recording Columbia Records

CLARKSDALE FURNITURE CO.



PURE FOODS

GOOD **VOICES**

Go Hand in Hand

ART GILLHAM

has the good voice—We have the Pure Fods



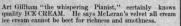
ART GILLHAM

"The Whispering Pianist"

for his personl use while in Clarksdale

CLARKSDALE NASH COMPANY

ART GILLHAM **Certainly Knows His** ICE CREAM



HE SAYS

M'LERAN'S PARLOR

Is equipped with the only 100% Electric Refrigerated Soda Fountain in townthat's why their Drinks are the best in town. They always have such a large varie ty of new kinds of Ice Cream and Drinks.

312 Yazoo Ave.

ART GILLHAM

"The Whispering Pianist"

Savs:-

"To keep piece in the familly and have a good voice, a good



EL TRELLES

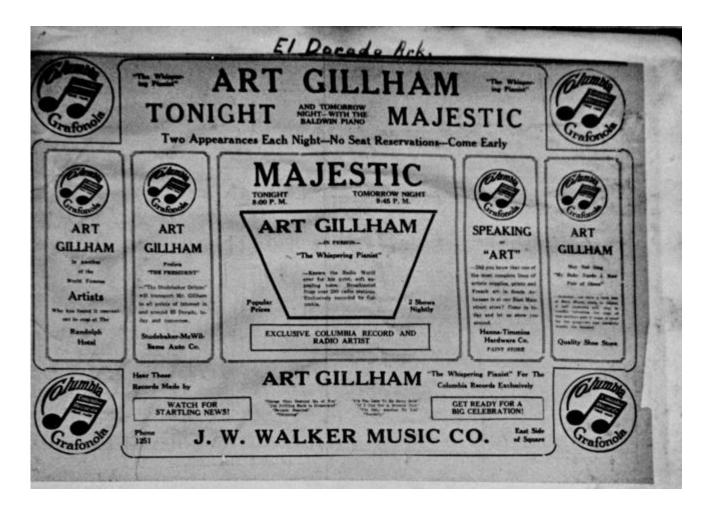
BARTON-STILL CO.

1927, July 24

Columbia ad 1007-D

Undated

probably in July 1927 during this tour: El Dorado, Ark



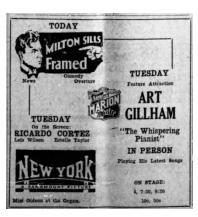


1927, July 25 Clarksdale, Ms announces Art Gillham to be at

Saenger's Marion Theatre on Tuesday

1927, July 25 Helena, Art at Saenger Theatre. Movie: Summer Batchelors.

1927, July 26 Clarkesdale, Ms at the Marion Theatre 4:00, 7:30 and 9:30.

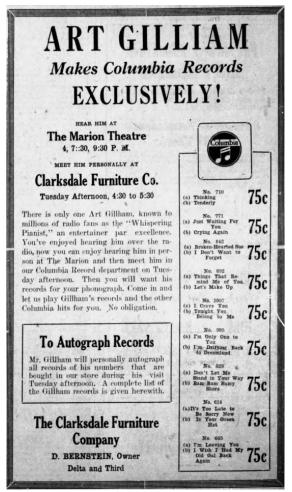






1927, July 26

Clarkesdale, MS appearance at Clarkesdale Furniture at 4:30-5:30.



GREAT DOUBLE BILL OFFERED IN THIS CITY Art Gillham Will Appear In Person Three Times with Great Screen Show. Patrons of the Marion Theatre have every reason to see Tuesday's show. For the first time in the history of the Theatre, a real ariist has been engaged to entertain, land in selecting him, the manager secured one who is on the tip of every tongue in the United States today—Art Gillham, "The Whispering Planist," who probably has more admirers than any other individual whose musleal abilities are recognized. Mr. Gillham, comes direct from a week's engagement at Loew's State Theatre in Memphis, where he literally "stopped the where the literally "stopped the other Tuesday in the ephayed. 4, and 7.20 and 9.20 at sight. Biende Cortez, Lois Wilson and 4, Biende Cortez, Lois Wilson and 4, Biende Cortez, Lois Wilson and 4.

4, and 7:30 and 9:30 at night.
Ricardo Cortez, Lois Wilson and,
Estelle Taylor in Paramount's
'New York' is the screen ettraction for Tuesday. It is a pulsating,
vibrating colorful picture,—in fast,
a veritable potpouri of the great
city as would be seen by a visitor.
Broadway, Times Square, Central
Park, The Battery, and all of the
important places in New York serve
as the background of this modern
love story.

nove story.

The whole show is just about the best that hes ever been presented in Clarksdale and even though it is such a good entertainment that does not effect the admission price, as it redials 50 cents for adults, and 10 cents for children.



1927, July 27 Jackson, Ms at Saenger Theatre

for two days.

1927, July 28 Jackson, MS.

1927, July 29 Baton Rouge, La: State-Times,

p 3-B: at the

Columbia Theatre. Two days.







Art Gillham--Himself

Actress Advocates
Rights for Women

"The Whispering Pianist"

Columbia Theatre, Friday-Saturday

—maker of the popular Columbia Phonograph Records, famed radio performer, Art Gillham, "The Whispering Pianist," appears in person on the stage of the Columbia theater Friday and Saturday, matince and night, July 29 and 30.

For the first time in Baton Rouge you can hear in person one of America's great recording artists—this week.

Hear These Columbia Records NOW

1007 (Tonight You Belong to Me (I Crave You

972 (if I Get a Sweet's Now (Broken Hearted

955 (I'm Only Another to You (Drifting Back to Dreamla

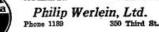
892 (Things That Remind Me of You (Let's Make Up

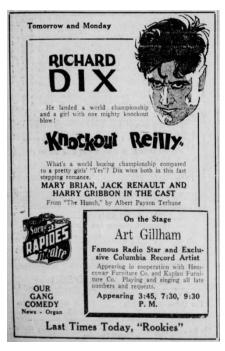
771 (Just Waiting for You (Crying Again

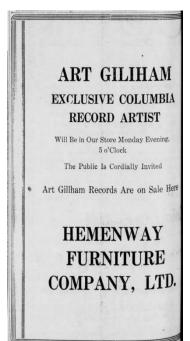
(I Wish I had My Old Gal Back (I'm Leaving You

Globe Furniture Co.

Phonograph Department. 534 Msin St. Phone 3280









1927, July 30 Alexandria, La: announces Art Gillham coming to Saenger's Rapides Theatre on Sunday and Monday, 3 shows daily

TODAY ONLY

On the Stage
Art Gillham
Radio Star and Columbia
Record Artist

Richard Dix
Mary Brian

"Knockout Reilly"

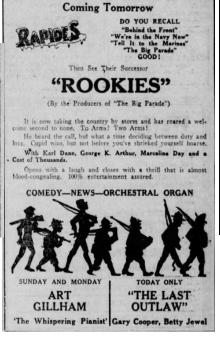
Our Gang Comedy
News Organ

1927, Aug.

Art Gillham, Pianist, Plays at Rapides Theater

Art Gllham, the "Whispering Pianist" and radio star, maker of Columbia records, gave several exhibitions of his skill as a pianist at the Rapides Theater Sunday and Monday. The large crowds gave him unstinted applause after each and every number. Mr. Gillham is an artist of rare ability, and his style is his own. His wierd minors are a pleasing part of his performance. Many of his melodies are snappy and jazzy.

If You Hear Art Gillham at the Rapides Theater, you may hear him on the Columbia record at Harry Levine's, corner of Second and Washington streets.—Adv.



HEAR ART GILLHAM

The Whispering Pianist

Columbia Record Artist

AT RAPIDES THEATRE
SUNDAY AND MONDAY

His Records Are on
Sale Here Always

Art Gillham Will Be in Our Store Monday
at 1 P. M.—The Public Cordially Invited

Kaplan Furniture Co.

826 LEE STREET

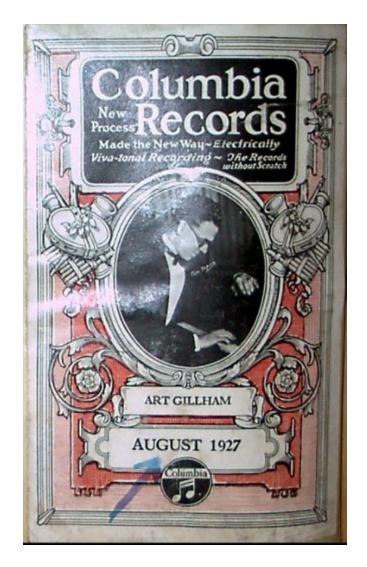
Buy COLUMBIA RECORDS Here

1927, July 31 Monroe, La: announces Art Gillham to appear on Tuesday to Saenger Theater

1927, Aug Record released: Columbia 1007-D

Columbia Supplement - on cover - reviews Columbia 1007-D, recorded in April: "The Whispering Pianist (Art Gillham) presents a new style of interpretation in *I Crave You*, which is coupled with *Tonight You Belong To Me*. In the first named selection, Art introduces to Columbia's record audience his Southland Syncapators. As Gillham whispers the words, his orchestra keeps in perfect rhythm and fills in every space behind him."

1927, August Columbia Supplement:



1927, August Delores Valesco Gennett 6152 I Crave You/Now I Won't Be Blue released

1927, August 1 Monroe, LA



1927, Aug 2-3

Monroe, La.: at the Saenger Theatre. Movie: Florence Vidor in The World At Her Feet.

1927, Aug 2

Columbia ad 1051-D



SIRAND THEATER. Starting Today, Ramon Novarro and Alice Terry In "Lovers" and Art

Starting Today, Ramon Novarro and Alice Terry in "Lovers" and Art Gillham, In Person.

Can there be a pure friendship between a man and a beautiful woman? "Lovers," Ramon Novarro's latest production, coming to the Strand theater today, answers that question in a startlingly vivid manner that will linger long in the memory of every picturegoer who sees it. Laid in the romantic settings of modern Spain, it is filled with the gayety of ultra modern society, and tells the gripping, enthralling story of a family whose lives are wrecked and whose souls are all but swamped by a hidden enemy with whom they cannot cope, the enemy of underground gossip and scandal. Alice Terry enacts the part of the woman, an innocent young wife who sinks in the sea of slander the gossipping city has caused. This is the first time in some seasons that Novarro and Miss Terry have played opposite each other and at they are one of the famous pairs of screen lovers, their appearance together promises unrivalled entertainment. Thrills are provided by a sensational promises unrivalled entertainment.
Thrills are provided by a sensational
duel. The cast is one of exceptional
merit, including Roy D'Arcy, George
K. Arthur, Edward Conelly, Edward
Martindel and John Milian. John M.
Stahl directed.
By special arrangement with the

By special arrangement with the Keith Orpheum Vaudeville Circuit, the Strand will present on the program, "The Whispering Planist" Art Gillham in person. He is a Columbia record artist and a most popular radio entertainer.

CHREVEPORT'S LEADING THEATRE-C STARTING TOMORROW star of "Ben-Hur" in his greatest role utiful wife of his best friend and he peted. It pulsates with romance, with thrills—not a dull moment. Columbia Record Artist ART GILLHAM
Columbia Record Artist Radio SENNETT COMEDY "CRAZY TO ACT" LYRIC WHITE FLANNELS"

1927, August 5 Shreveport, LA: welcome party







Art Gillham, the Whispering Pianist

He will use a NASH exclusively to drive in and around Shreveport during his visit to our beautiful city.

Look for him and see what he has to say about the wonderful performance of a Nash Motor car.

There are many reasons why Mr. Gillham prefers the NASH! Ask him why, then call us for a demonstration.



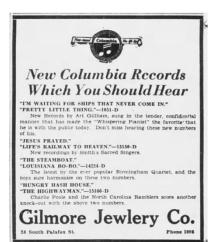
NASH MISSISSIPPI VALLEY MOTOR COMPANY, INC.

192 969 Texas Avenue

Phone 6978

"The Whispering Planist," Art Gillham, will offer an entire change of program for today and tomorrow. The appearance of this Columbia record artist is being splendidly received by tremendous audiences.









Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Becker entertained Monday evening with a buffet supper in honor of Miss Betty Becker and Fred Becker, of Brookhaven, Miss.

The round buffet table held as its central decoration an exquisite Marie Antoinette basket filled with gorgeous gold and yellow zinnias, and many brass candlesticks held turquoise blue lighted tapers.

The guests were delightfully entertained by Mr. Art Gillham and Mrs. Mary Flood Gates, who gave their latest Columbia record hits.



1927, Aug. 8 Shreveport, La.: at the Strand Theatre.

The movie: *Lovers*.













1927, Aug. 8 Texarkana announces Art Gillham at

Saenger Theatre Thursday-Saturday,

3 performances a day.

1927, Aug 9 Shreveport 1927, Aug.

Beaumont, TX: at Liberty Theatre five days beginning Sunday. Movie: Lon

Chaney in *Mockery*.

1927, Aug. -- Hattisburg, Ms: at the Strand Theatre. the movie: *Chang*.

1927, Aug. -- Vicksburg, Ms: at the Saenger Theatre. the movie: *Man Crazy*.

1927, Aug 11-13 Texarkana: Saenger Theater

1927, Aug 15 Yazoo, MS Yazoo Theatre

1927, Aug 19 Columbia ad 1051-D

1927, Aug. 27 Beaumont, Tx: news article

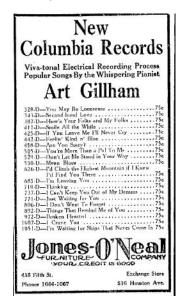








1927, Sept 2-3 Port Arthur, TX



NEW COLUMBIA RECORDS 15095-D—My Carolina Hama—Voint Dant

Riky Puckett and Bah Nichela Fin Duiking Back to Dreamland—Vocal Riky Puckett, violia and gains accomp.—75c

83) D.—My Lady.—Novelty Accessp. A Little Music in the Moonlight.—Nov. Accessp. Joney Marvin (the Ukulula Acc).—Tic

15111-D—Sovet Burch of Daisies—Vocal Let Mc Call You Sweethant—Vocal McMichan's Melody Mos—13c

19165-D—Knooville Girl—Voral The Jeologe Lover—Vocal Arthur Tanner wild His Com Stacken—95e

1051-D—I'm Waining for Shipe That Never Corne Is— Vocal Presty Little Thing—Vocal Art Gilliam (The Whitpering Plantes)—75c

Art Gillham Coming To Port Arthur

ART CRIAD-IAM is person will be in Port Arthur September the 2nd and 3rd in social of the Strand theater and at our store. He will outsquaph all his records at our store theat two days. He same and hear "THE, WHISPERING PIANIST:

Jones-O'Nea

435 Fieb St.

Phone 1066-1067

Art Gillham, "The Whispering Pianist," To Play and Sing At the Strand Tomorgow

When a sing-sun melody in cambined with a half whisper—half talklag baritone voice, the result is: Art Gilham, the "Whispering Planist," who will appear at the Strand in person Friday and Saturday.

Officen will sing those melodies which have made him furnous, his eriginal exampositions and request numbers from the nuclimee.

Art is known both by his radio performances and by the records he has made. He received the title of "The Whispeging Pinnlet" from Juskin Eur, announcer for WSR Vinata. Georgia, in 1822. Envioled blin by this movel fills because of the method Gillham uses in removing his songs., it is a soft rendition with the airrephene on the plane, close to his lips.



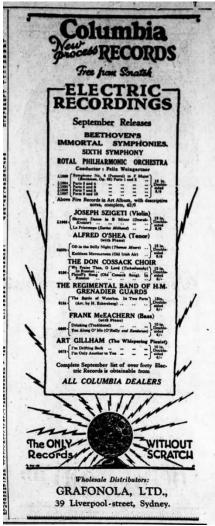


1927, Sept 3 Hattisburg, MS Saenger Newsette, p 1

1927, Sept 4 Biloxi, MS at Strand on Friday through Sunday.

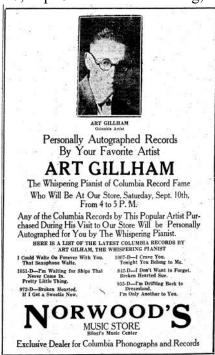
1927, Sept. 5-7 Meridian, Ms: at Strand Theatre.



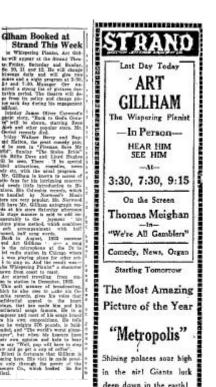


Australia ad Sept 5, 1927

1927, Sept 8 Hattisburg, MS one day only.









TODAY ONLY



Walter Long and Robert Fraver

James Oliver Curwood's greatest story

The most thrilling, gripping, dra-matic epic of the frozen north ever filmed.

Jimmy Adams Combdy "Wild and Woozy" Sportlight Novelty

ON THE STAGE

Art Gillham

The Whispering Planist PAMOUS COLUMBIA RECORD ARTIST Today and Tomorrow At 3:80, 7:80 and 9:80

Adults 50e

Children 250



in Threiery Councils Drawn that servity of absention th their out length

COMING BL SAT. SUN. ART GILLHAM The Whispering Plantel Columbia Record Activi

"WHISPERING PIANIST"
TO APPEAR ON COAST
Art Gillham known to the musical world as "The Whispering Pianist," will appear in person at the Gulfport Strand Theatre Monday and Tuesday, of next week, Pat Kleinpeter, manager of the Strand announced. He comes to Gulfport through the Gulf Coast Music Company where he will appear personally during Monday and Tuesday and where his Columbia records will be demonstrated. Mr. Gillham is known to many Gulfportians through his radio programs and his records and it is with interest that his comand it is with interest that his comling is heralded. He has an interesting history in making for himself a
name as a singer of sentimental
songs, the first time he sang in such
a manner as come to be called "The
Whispering Pianist," being in 1922 when he was dared to sing over a mi-crophone and since that time he has continued to sing his ballads to ever increasing audiences. He is not only a singer but a composer and the greater number of the songs he sings are his own compositions. The picture to be shown at the Strand Monday and Tuesday is "Hard Boiled Haggerty." Mr. Gillham will appear in Biloxi at the Strand Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Hear Art Gillham at the Strand



Art Gillham Has The Good Voice

-- We Have The Good Tires

MARATHON TIRES

"RETHE WITH MULTIPOS"

RE - TIRE CO.

"The Whispering Pianist*

Art Gillham

Will Play

The Small Grand SETTERGREN Piano

Furnished By

Cunningham Music Store

The Whispering Pianist TOMORROW ONLY

ART GILLHAM



Diffill A per sole C the was but ones apo periore des luis autréalle.

to all per day at he

CARTER-LANE

YOU ARE INVITED To Hest

Our Bistiagnished Carst The Galambia beint-ART GILLHAM

> Who Will Be in Our St From 4 to 1 (FCloris

Thursday Afternoon

You've board him sing on records. Now see him. in person. Let him autograph over record

Woodruff Furniture Co.



The Great Art Gillham

WILL HAVE AT HIS DECISE. DURING HIS STAY MORE

Senior Sedan THE REMORKABLE NEW STY.

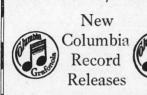
DODGE BROS., Inc.



T., CHAPLIN IN "THE BETTER 'OLE" EXTRA ADDED ATTRACTION NEXT SAT.

ART GILLHAM

IN PERSON
The Whispering Pianist



Come In and Hear These New Records. They're Good.

That Saxophone Waltz—
I Could Waltz On Forever With My Art Gillham uld Waltz On . . . Sweetheart— No. 1071-D Art Gillham

Just Once Again-Just Once San-Swanee Shore— No. 1075-D

Ruth Etting Ruth Etting

I'm Waiting For Ships That Never Come In-

Pretty Little Thing— No. 1051-D Art Gillham Art Gillham

We My Honey and Me— No. 1082-D

Lee Morse Lee Morse

macdonald-Preston

1927, Sept 10

Mobile, Saenger Newsette, p 1

1927, Sept. 12-13

Gulfport, Ms at

1927, Sept 14-16

Pensacola Saenger Theatre

1927, Sept 16

Columbia ad 1081-D

'Whispering Pianist' Will Appear at Saenger 3 Days

Art Gillham, Noted Musician, Here on Wednesday.

A GRAND AND GLORIOUS TREAT! Tomorrow and Saturday HERE IN

PERSON ART GILLHAM

"THE WHISPERING PIANIST"

Columbia Record ARTIST

Favorite

IN A PROGRAM OF HIS LATEST HITS

HEAR HIM AND SEE HIM IN PERSON

12 personally autographed Colombia Records will be given away each afternoon to the holders of lucky

ON THE SCREEN THOMAS MEIGHAN in

FREE TICKETS

EVERY DAY someone who is a reader of THE NEWS gets TWO FREL TEKETS to the STRAND. Perhaps it is your today. Turn to the WANI ADS and if your same is there—cell at THE NEWS OFFICE and go year ticknet FREE.

Announcing ART GILLHAM

Exclusive Columbia Record Artist APPEARING IN PERSON AT THE Saenger Theatre

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday September 14th, 15th and 16th

Below is a Complete List of Art Gillham's Records. Come in and Ask to Hear These Numbers

How Do You Do

Way Out West in Kannas
Carolina Old Me I Was Good
Hot Tanale Molly
Can't Your Friend Get a Friend
For Mc
You May Be Loncome
I Ho Moneone Eine Befere I Had
How Do You Had Not Had Not Carolina For Mc
You May Be Loncome
I Had Moneone Eine Befere I Had
100 Tendedy
110 Tendedy

Angry If You Leave Me, I'll Never Cry

Are You Sorry?
Leving Just You
I'm Sitting on Top of the Wo.ld
You're More Than a Pal to Me
Bam Bam Bamy Shere
Don't Let Me Stand in Your Way
She's My Gal
Mean Blues

tow's Your Folks and My Folks?

Ask Tm to the Doer Blues mile All the While and All

737D I Can't Keep You Out of My

Dreams llo Little Girl of My Dreams

Gilmore Jewelry Company

Known from coast to coast by radio fans and users of Columbia records, as "The Whispering Pianist," Art Gillham will arrive in Pensacola tomorrow to begin a three day personal engagement at the Saenger theatre where he will entertain Saenger patrons three times daily, once in the afternoon and twice at night.

Mr. Gillham will appear on the stage as a special added attraction to the screen feature "Barbed Wire," which is a picturization of Hall Caine's celebrated war time story. The Woman of Knockaloe." It features Einar Hanson, Pola Negri and Clive Brook.

Request numbers, preferably from the many compositions which Mr Gillham has given the music world. but any others which he has recorded for Columbia will be a feature of the "Whispering Pianist's" performance.

As an added incentive to get the ladies out to the matinees, Manager Jones has arranged to present some four ladies present at each of the matinees which Mr. Gillham will appear, with an autographed Columbia record of one of his compo-

Pensacola is very fortunate, says Manager Jones, in having the opportunity of hearing and seeing this famous artist in person and he hopes amusement patrons will show their appreciation to the Saenger management accordingly.

Amusements

ART GILLHAM IN CITY TODAY

Noted Pianist to Appear Three Days at Saenger.

The theatre going public of Pen-sacola has in store, for the next three days, a musical treat of the



season. Art Gillham, widely and perhaps better known as "The Whispering Pianist", opens a three day engagement at the Saenger Theatre today and during that time he will be heard in a variety of his song numbers which have already made him famous as a Columbia recording artist and as a radio en-tertainer. Mr. Gillham will appear three times daily, once at matinee three times daily, once at matinee and twice at night, in connection with the showing of Clive Brooks and Pola Negri in Hall Caine's big epic world war picture. "Barbed Wire", today and tognorrow and with "Beau Geste" Friday.

Words of introduction are not necessary for Art Gillham among Pensacolians since everyone is familiar with his voice at the rethreshold.

liar with his voice either through the long list of his very popular Columbia phonograph records or from his broadcasting over radio. It will be remembered that Mr. Gill-ham was in Pensacola only a short ham was in Pensacola only a short time ago and entertained over WCOA. By no means is Mr. Gill-ham's voice his only source of en-tertaining ability for he is a very ac-complished pianist and his unique method in this phase of presenting his numbers adds immeasurably to the enlowment of his act. the enjoyment of his act.



Now appearing at the

Saenger Theatre

makes records exclusively for ",

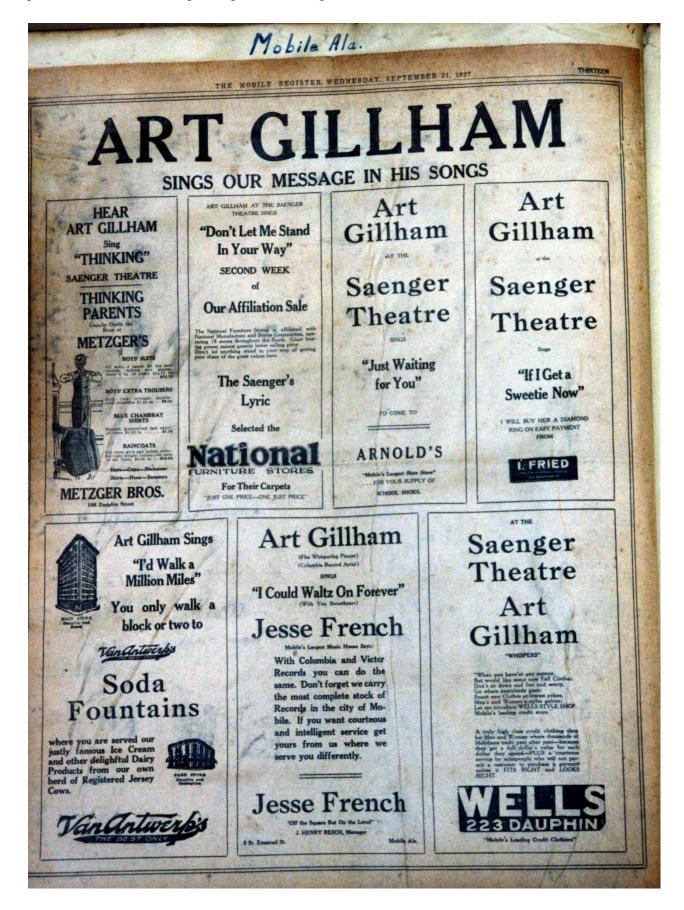
COLUMBIA

Come in and hear his records.

Gilmore Jewelry Co. Phone 1098 24 South Palafox St.











1927, Sept 28 Columbia ad 1081-D

1927, Oct 1 New Orleans announces Art Gillham to be at Atlanta Visitor Next Week

Saenger's

Greenwood Theatre next week.

1927, Oct 1 Atlanta announcement











Whispers

G

W

in Fra

Period and

for

Sie Sie

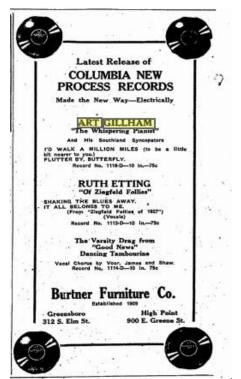
O



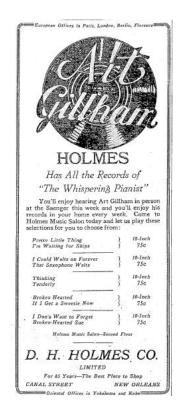
ART GILLHAM

Back in August, 1921, someone dared Art Gillham to sing a song into the microphone at the Drake Hotel radio station in Chicago where Art was playing plane for other artists to sing to. And the result was—"The Whispering Pianlat" of radio and record artists, and listened to by thousands. Art started traveling from station to station in December, 1922, and is still at it. He cember, 1927, and is still at it. He received his title from Lambdin Kay comber, 1927, and is still at it. He received his stills from Lambdin Kay at WSE. Atlanta, Georgia, (Art's place of birth, because he talks and sings so softly, having the microphone on the piano close to his lips. This manner of broadcasting (which he also uses to make his Columbia records) gives his voite that confidential appeal to the heart strings, that has made Gillham and his sentimental songs famous. He is a composer and most of his songs you hear are his own compositions. He tells you he weighs 378 pounds. Is beidheaded, and "the world's worst plano player," but when you see and hear him you have your own opinions, and hate to hear him say, "well, papa with have to stop now and go get a cup of coffee." He will be at the Shenger Saturday. ô 0













1927, Oct. 16 Birmingham: News-Age Herald. Art is appearing at Loew's Temple

1927, Oct 18 Columbia ad 1116-D



1927, Oct 21

1

Columbia ad 1116-D

New Columbia Records

Two Black Crows—Part 1 and 2—3 and 4. Get Yours Today. I'm Waiting for Ships That Never Come In—(Art Gillham), The Whispering Planist.

BANNER FURNITURE CO.





Atlanta, Ga. full pages of ads in Atlanta *Journal*. At Loew's Grand Theatre for week. Vaudeville show features Ziegfeld Follies' Beth Beri in a show *A Night At The Follies*. Ads for his records 711-D through 1007-D.



BETH BERI AND CON CONRAD TO BROADCAST TUESDAY berg-Carlson Line Attracts

Much Attention at Exposition Here

DE LUCA TO SING Gillham, Whispering Pianist' Accordion Girls'
ON ATWATER KENT
PROGRAM TONIGHT Atlanta Visitor Next Week In Sears-Roebuck

TO GO ON AIR HERE ON TUESDAY NIGHT

TWE NOTED STARS Stromberg-Carlson Line Attracts



See"Art" himself and hear these

Recent Numbers Reproduced on Columbia Records

RADIO ING The Air Waves.

Loew's Grand Theatre

Monday Night ART GILLHAM

Pinnist, antionally has a

Tuesday Night

BETH BERI

JAY VELIE

CON CONRAD

Loew's Grand Theatre

ROMBERG-CARLSON

MUSICIANS FAMOUS

Appearing in Person at UDDEN& BATES 1 to 2 P. M. Wednesday



ART **GILLHAM** Noted Radio Star and Columbia Recording Artist

"The Whispering Pianist"

"Art's" Records Are Here For Your Selection

In connection with his appearance at Loew's Grand this week we have made special arrangements that you may get a good close-up of the famed entertainer who delights audiences by radio and Columbia records the world over.

Everybody Invited

LUDDEN & BATES

SOUTAERNIMUSIC HOUSE 46 Pryor Street

Piano Company

Art Gillham

Radio Star and Columbia Recording Artist

Appears"In Person"

At This Store

Tuesday, (This Week) 1 to 2 P.M.

1927, Nov. 9 *Phonograph and Talking Machine Weekly* – Art is featured on the cover. A note concerning leaving out the word "know" in the title on the cover is attached.



1927, Nov 10



1927, Nov 10 Columbia ad 1152-D

1927, Nov 20 Dallas, Tx: at Loew's Melba Theatre.

Movie: Adam and Evil. Also on WFAA

At 12:30 pm

1927, Nov 22 Dallas, TX: WFAA 11:00 pm

1927, Nov 27 Dallas, TX: WFAA. Dallas news

Articles apparently mix him up with Jack Smith, referring to Art as the Whispering Baritone.



Famous Columbia Record Artist to Appear in Person, Starting Tomorrow

The famous "Whispering Pianist" will be in Dallas until Friday, the 25th. Don't fail to hear him.



Appearing in Person at Brook Mays On Monday Between 1 and 2 o'Clock

ART GILLHAM

Noted Radio Star and Columbia Record Artist

ART'S RECORDS HERE FOR YOUR SELECTION

Belle Little Girl of My Dreams

f Bag't Want to Furget.

Britis Breaken-Hearted
H I Get a bereatle New

16 f Call

1001D For Waiting for Ships To
Come In
Come In
Petty Little Thing

1110 Finiter By Settertly 174 a Million to One To 1153 I Lave You for! I Bon't Know Way Just Sefore You Broke My Heart

DON'T MISS ART-

He will be in this store next week to sing and play for you.

SOME OF ART'S LATEST RELEASES:

1001-Sanaphine W. 1003-H I Get a New 1003-Walter

CLINE MUSIC CO.

RT WILL BE HERE IN PERSON ON TUESDAY BETWEEN I AND 2 P. M.

It Is With Pleasure That We Welcome

ART GILLHAM

to our city. His recent hit in "I Love You, But I Don't Know Why," is a characteristic song for Art Gillham (The Whispering Pianist), assisted by his Southland Syncopators. In the coupling, "Just Before You Broke My Heart," Art tells his sad story unaided.

Bush & Gerts Piano Co.

Have Art Gillham Auto-graph His Records for You



LOEW'S MELBA

STARTING SATURDAY

ADDED ATTRACTION

THE COLUMBIA RECORDING ARTIST



5-BIG ACTS-5

AUDEVILLE

WORLD'S FOREMOST DIALECT COMEDIENNE

Other Big Acts

"OUR GANG" In Yale vs. Harvard

ON THE SCREEN LEW CODY AND AILEEN PRINGLE



Mirth Modern Garden Art Gillham will appear in person at each of the following Columbia deal-ers some afternoon of next week:

We Are HEADQUARTERS for

ART GILLHAM

And All Other

COLUMBIA RECORDS

Loew's All Nest



play his latest records

You Will Be Delighted With Any One of These Records!

-Principle of the Safey No.—Things Ther Stated to Let's Moke Ex-Philading 1807—Tought You Dring to Tradesty E Cree For Traducty

1901—I Could Walds on Fac-your With You Sweets, heart That Sacophene Walts 1116—Nietter Ry, Butterity 1'd Walts a Million Miles

Dallas Radio Laboratories

Oak Cliff Headquarters for

ART GILLHAM

COLUMBIA RECORDS

COME SEE HIM IN PERSON HERE
ON THURSDAY BETWEEN I AND 2 P M
"ART'S" RECORDS ARE HERE FOR YOUR SELECTION

Tiolo Tenderity
Thicking
Thicking
10 Can't Neen Lon Ont of My
Unessee
Hello Little Girl of My
Hello L

TTID Just William for Yes

Can Mark William for Yes

Can Mark Wan't to Perget

Brukerhauted No.

Brukerhauted No.

Brukerhauted No.

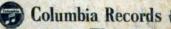
Litta Make Up

1007D Tonight You Belong to Se I Cours You (With South-land Syncopology) lend Symposium;

10010 I'm Walring for Ships That
Nove Cume in
Freitz Liete Thing
That Samphone Walfe
I Could Walts on Foreign

JEFFERSON MUSIC CO.

GET YOUR ART GILLHAM AND OTHER



HERE

Don't Fail to Visit I's and Get Art to Autograph Your Records

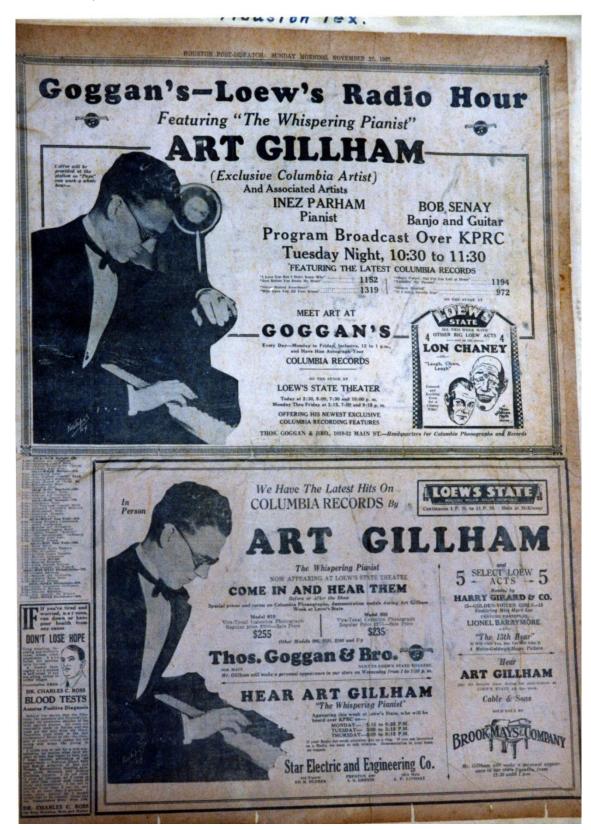
LESTER GUNST CO.

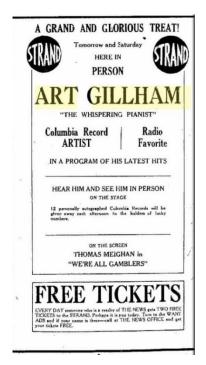
BE AT OUR STORE - - -

MEET AND GET A PERSONALLY AUTOGRAPHED RECORD!

HE WILL BE HERE IN PERSON ON MONDAY AT 1 P. M.

ART GILLHAM WILL A. WATKIN CO.









1927, Dec 4 Nashville WSM all week Loews Theatre

1927, Dec 5 Chester, PA article

> After selecting a number of these || Christmas records at the Morey Pinno ! Conipany on Seventh street. I heard and purchased two others that I'm sure you will like. One, a vocal, sung by Art Cillham, the whispering planist, is delightful. It includes "Just Before You Broke My Heart" and "I Love You But I don't know Why." Gillham's capivating Southland Syncopaters are included too. This is a Columbia record No. 1152-D. Do hear it. The other was a waltz Columbia record No. 1161-

1927, Dc 10 Nashville **WSM**

1927 Dec 10 Thomasville, GA

1927, Dec 15-16 Thomasville: Rose Theater and Kiwanis Club



WSM, NASHVILLE—336.9.
7:15 p. m.—Bedtime stories.
7:30 p. m.—NBC program from WJZ.
9 p. m.—Pellettieri's orchestra.
9:30 p. m.—NBC program from WEAF. 10:30 p. m.—WSM Minstrel Men. 10 p. m.—Guitar solos; orchestra. 12 m.-Art Gillham, pianist

ROSE THEATRE -



Thursday-Friday_Saturday Art Gillham

"THE WHISPERING PIANIST*

The Columbia Record Star, Featured attraction of 200 radio stations, and a headline act in practically every large city in America.

On the stage in person twice daily, in addition POPULAR PRICES



Skrilling all America

CHRYSLER 62

W. A. PALIN,

The guest at Station WSM during the week will be Art Gillham.
"The Whispering Planist," whose fame has extended throughout the nation. Mr. Gillham has a style all his own and his little songs and oxpert plano playing make him one of the most attractive features on the air today. He has been broadcasting for several years and has appeared at almost every station in the country of any size. He will be on the late programs during the week.

Week.
The Tappassane under the Al-

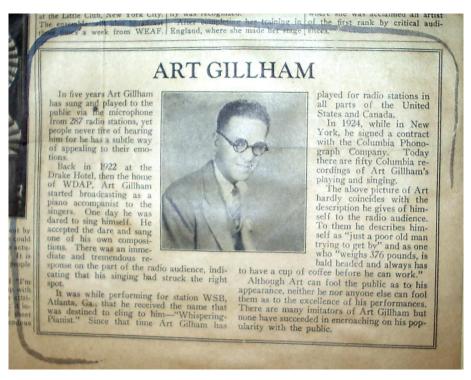
"THE WHISPERING PIANIST"

You've heard him over radio, you've heard his records, you've played and sung his "Hesitation Blues" and other compositions. SEE AND HEAR HIM IN PERSON.

ROSE Today, Friday and Saturday



1927, Dec 20 Columbia ad: 1194-D



1928

Sheet Music: What A Wonderful Night This Would Be, Billy Smythe &

Art Gillham, Ted Browne Music

Sheet Music: Lamp Of Aladin, Fred Johnson, Bill Kennedy & Art Gill-

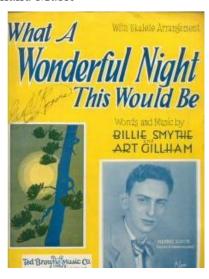
ham, Triangle Music

Sheet Music: In My Sweetheart's Arms, Marie Elliott, J. Russell Robinson & Art

Gillham, Triangle Music

Sheet Music: My Heart Cries Out For You, George Randall & Art Gillham,

Haviland Music



1928, Jan. 9

New York: recorded 3 titles for Columbia, accompanied by 4 piece group probably being Murray Kellner, violin, Andy Sannella, alto sax/clarinet/guitar, Rube Bloom, piano, Eddie King, Celeste:

145491-2 Gee! But I'm Blue 145491-3 Gee! But I'm Blue

(Little - Rose - Harris)

Col 1392-D

Col 01183 (Australia)

145492-1 Nobody's Lonesome But Me

145492-3 Nobody's Lonesome But Me

(Malie - de Voll - Vincent)

Col 1492-D

Col 01202 (Australia)

145493-1 Just For Tonight (Sannella)

145493-3 Just For Tonight (Sannella)

(Cobb)

Col 1619-D





1928, Jan. 10

New York: recorded 4 titles for Columbia, accompanied by Murray Kellner, violin and Rube Bloom, piano:

145499-2 **So Tired**

145499-3 **So Tired**

(Little - Sizemore)

Col 1282-D

Col 01093 (Australia)

145500-3 You'd Rather Forget Than Forgive

(Johnson - Davis)

Col 1282-D

Col 01093 (Australia)

145501-1 In My Sweetheart's Arms

145501-3 In My Sweetheart's Arms

(Elliott - J. Russell Robinson -Art Gillham)

Col 1492-D

Col 01202 (Australia)

145502-3 Silver-Haired Sweetheart

(Herscher)

Col 1319-D

Col 0183 (Australia)

New York: recorded 4 titles for Columbia, accompanied by Andy Sannella on clarinet, alto sax, flute, guitar and effects; Murray Kellner on violin; Rube Bloom on piano:

145505-2 Chinatown, My Chinatown

145505-3 Chinatown, My Chinatown

(Jerome - Schwartz)

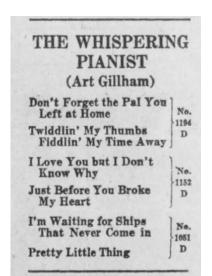
Col 1619-D

145506-2 My Heart's Aching For My Old Gal

145506-3 My Heart's Aching For My Old Gal

(Rose - de Voll)

Col 1619-D



1928, Jan. 11





145507-1 Who Gives You All Your Kisses?

145507-3 Who Gives You All Your Kisses?

(Elbel - Elbel)

Col 01083 (Australia)

145508-1-2 *I'm Just A Rollin' Stone* (piano solo)

(Wendell Hall - Art Gillham)

Not issued (resumed on January 23, 1928)

1928, Jan. 17 New York: recorded 1 title for Columbia accompanied by Murray Kellner, violin, Andy Sannella, alto sax and guitar, Rube Bloom, piano

145539-1 The Hours I Spent With You

145539-3 The Hours I Spent With You

(Lewis - Young - Little)

Col 1353-D

Col 01154 (Australia)

New York: recorded 1 title for Columbia, accompanied by Dale Wimbrow, harmonica:

145553-1-2-3 Think Of Me, Thinking Of You

(Wimbrow - Abbott)

Not issued

New York: recorded 2 piano solo titles for Columbia as "Barrel-House Pete": 1928, Jan. 23

145562-2 I'm Just A Rollin' Stone

145562-3 I'm Just A Rollin' Stone

(Wendell Hall - Art Gillham)

Col 14308-D (resumed from January 11, 1928)

CD Black & White Piano, Vol 3

145563-2 *Pussy*

145563-3 **Pussy**

(Art Gillham)

Col 14308-D

CD Black and White Piano, Vol 3

New York CBS Columbia Phonograph

10 p. m.—Columbia Phonograph hour; Art Gillham (the Whispering Hour Pianist.)

"WHISPERING PIANIST" Art Gillham, "The Whispering Planist," will be featured in the Columbia Phonograph Hour over the Columbia Broadcasting system, Wednesday night, Jan. 25, at 9 o'clock.

will be featured and the Columbia Phonograph hour presented by Art Gillham, the "Whispering Pianist;" Andy Sanella, saxo-phonist and guitarist; the Knickerbockers; Charles Harrison, tenor; the Manhattan quartet; Charleston Chasers; Harry Breuer, xylophonist; and Murray Kellner, violinist.

1928, Jan. 19

1928, Jan 25

1928, Jan 30

ART GILLHAM-the Whispering pianist, is exclusive Columbia artist. Back numbers of his releases now in

TWO BLACK CROWS-Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 now in stock.

GOLDEN SLIPPERS, (southern hit) now in stock.

Sneed Furniture Co.

1928, Feb.

2 EAST 7th STREET Metronome Magazine, p vs. 1110 11011 111111gle'

1076D Delirium Five Penr

11940 Twiddlin' My Thu Don't Forget

MacABEE PIANO CO.

Don't Forget the Two Black Crows

MacABEE PIANO CO.

features photo of Art Gillham, his You'd Rather

Forget Than Forgive and about his recording

other Triangle-Joe Davis-Howard Johnson titles.

1928, Feb

Talking Machine World:

Triangle Music Co. Hits on Recent Record Releases

During the past few weeks a number of the leading recording companies have released records of selections from the catalog of the Triangle Music Co. Among them are; Victor records, "Dallas Blues" and "Mean Old Bed Bug Blues"; Okeh records, "Ev'rybody Does It Now" and "Alligator Blues"; Columbia records by Art Gillham, the "Whispering Pianist,"
"You'd Rather Forget Than Forgive," "In My
Sweetheart's Arms" and "I'm Just a Rollin'
Stone." Joe Davis, head of the Triangle Music Co, recently recorded the new ballad which he wrote in collaboration with Howard Johnson. "You'd Rather Forget Than Forgive," for the Harmony catalog.

ART GILLHAM-the Whispering pianist, is exclusive Columbia artist. Back numbers of his releases now in

TWO BLACK CROWS-Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 now in stock.

GOLDEN SLIPPERS, (south-

Sneed Furniture Co.

1928, Feb. 23

New York, recorded 1 title for Columbia:

145676-1 I Found You Out When I Found You In Somebody

Else's Arms (4 takes)

145676-2 I Found You Out When I Found You In Somebody

Else's Arms

(O'Flynn - Ponce)

Col 1353-D

Col 01154 (Australia)

1928, Feb 25 Played at a stag party arranged by Ben Selvin

1928, Feb 25 Music Trade Review of So Tired/You'd Rather

Forget Than Forgive

1928, Feb 28 Scarsdale, NY: Art played for the bachelor

Party of E.L. Bill, son of the founder of

Talking Machine World.



New Electric Recording

Ibbable sided, 4/-

Some Outstanding FEBRUARY RECORDS

ALFRED O'SHEA

recepted Finale Act 3.1, Alfani-iniselli, L. Paci and La Scala

HEFFIELD CHOIR anductor: Sir Henry Cowar-ed in Wesley's Chapel, City Road, L

ART GILLHAM

MILTON HAYES

GRAFONOLA, LTD.,

ELECTRIC RECORDING AND NO SCRATCH

Australia ad

No. 14—How America was Discovered
No. 15—How America was Found Out
your copy of the Columbia Feb.

decided success, due in a measure to entertainment furnished by prominent recording artists, including Ben Selvin, Art Gillham, Oscar Grogan and Seger Ellis, Columbia artists.

1928 Mar

Record released: Columbia 1253-D.

1928 March

Talking Machine World reports Art discovered

New Tenor From Tennessee Has Wide Following Among Radio Audiences in the South—Discovery by Art Gillham Oscar Grogan in Memphis and influenced His signing with Columbia Records.

1928, March

Talking Machine World

Art Gillham Makes Continuity Record

Art Gillham's recent double-disc record for Columbia entitled "So Tired" and "You'd Rather Forget Than Forgive" is the first instance, Gillham claims, of putting out a continuity record with separate titles for the individual sides. "Two Black Crows" Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 are familiar to the public, but Art's stunt is new. His two selections form parts of a continued story of a jilted lover.



Art Gillham, Columbia Artist, in Cleveland

1928, Mar 7

ad





Oscar Grogan on Columbia Release



Oscar Grogan

ered and sponsored by Art Gillham, the
"Whispering Planist," who also records exclusively for the Columbia catalog, Grogan
comes from Memphis, where he sang with
Warner's Seven Aces. He has a wide following
among radio listeners-in in the South.
The new tenor's records reveal an attractive
voice, melodious and unforced. He has been
singing the vocal choruses for Ben Selvin's
orchestral recordings, and his second solo
coupling was recently released. This record
includes: "Somebody Lied About Me" and
"Who Knows?"



Hear . . . **GILLHAM'S** Latest Record

"Now I Won't Be Blue" . . . "What a Wonderful Night This Would Be,"

No. 1253-D

And all other latest Columbia Records



From Us

DIAL 6034

504 POLK The Pair Theater Is Across

Here's a Record You Should Own

"The Whispering Pianist"

Sings

"Flutter By Butterfly"

"I'd Walk a Million Miles to Be a Little Nearer You" Columbia 1116 -- Price 75c

OTHER NEW COLUMBIA RELEASES

Did Yeu Meen it? Old Fashioned Homance 1109 - Price 75c

Reep Sweeping the Cohwebs Off the Moon Vocal Chorus by Ruth Etting

Away Down South in Heaven Ted Lewis and His Band 1242 - Price 75a Leo Richman and His Orchestra Fred Rich and Orchestra 1241 — Price 75c

I've Been Longing for a Girl Like You Everywhere You Go

1243 - Price 75c

I Scream, You Scream, We All Scream for let Cream When the Robert E. Lee Comes to Town Harry Reser's Syncopators 1244 — Price 75c

Kaola Medley Waltz Hawalian Love Waltz 1248 — Price 75c Royal Palola Hawalian 1248 — Price 75c

COME IN AND HEAR THE NEW COLUMBIA HITS

JOIN ZALE'S RECORD CLUB Select 10 Records - Pay \$1.00 Down, \$1.00 Weekly



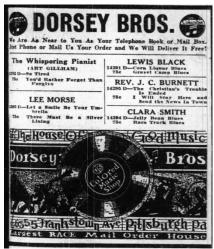


2nd Southern Theatre Tour

1928, March 19 St. Louis, MO Art's sister Ruth died of tuberculosis.

1928, March 31 Ad in Kingston, Jamaica for two records





1928, Mar. 25

Atlanta, Ga., *Atlanta Constitution*, p 11-A, a full page of pictures and ads. Art is playing at the Loews Grand Theatre. The movie was *Bringing Up Father*.

1928, April

Record released: Columbia 1282-D.

1928, April

Columbia Window Display:



1928, Apr. 2

Birmingham: Al., *Birmingham Post*, p 9, full pages of ads and pictures. Performances at Loew's Temple Theatre. Movie was *The Lovelorn* with extra 40,000 Miles With Lindbergh.

1928, April

Talking Machine World

Dealers in Newport News had record business considerably stimulated by the appearance there of the ever-popular "Whispering Pianist," Art Gillham. This famous exclusive Columbia artist stayed a full week at a local theatre and also broadcast several times over the Norfolk Radio station, bringing good record sales to those dealers who tied up with this event.

"WHAT A WONDERFUL NIGHT THIS WOULD BE," whispers Art Gillham in his new release. Turn this record over and he goes on to whisper "NOW I WON'T BE BLUE." This last number is rather unusual for Art, as he is usually "Broken-hearted."

1928, Apri

Wichita record store wrote a letter to its Dear Customer:
This month we have some exceptionally fine records customers

that we are telling you about in our letter.

"Twilight Rose," a beautiful waltz, by the Columbians.

"Frankie and Johnny," by Ted Lewis.

"Side by Side," by Ipana Troubadours.

Then if you are fond of Art Gillham's records, and we are sure you must be, his latest number might also be called his greatest. "I'm Waiting for Ships that Never Come In." You have not heard this song until you have You have not heard this song until you have heard Art Gillham whisper it.

We have another selection we do not want to forget to tell you about. "Echoes From the South," by Paul Specht and his orchestra. This is a record of just the old-time Southern melodies and played in their usual way. We are sure you will enjoy hearing it.

The above mentioned are only a few of the many new selections that Columbia have for this month. We are enclosing our monthly supplement, look it over, then come in and ask us to play your favorites for you. We are always pleased to serve you. A welcome awaits you at Eberhardt's.

1928, April 5

Ad in Kingston, Jamacia for 6 Art Gillham records

1928, April 5

Atlanta

Art Gillham Pleases

ATLANTA, GA., April 5.—Ludden & Bates, Phillips & Crew, Bame's, Inc., Edico Piano Co. and LeRoy Webb, all Columbia dealers, report a decided increase in record sales, due to the appearance at the Grand Theatre for a week of Art Gillham, the Whispering Pianist, of wide

1928, Apr. 24

New Orleans: Art appears at the Saenger Theatre. New Orleans States, p 17.

1928, Apr. 24

New Orleans: recorded 4 titles for Columbia, all piano solos, under name "Barrel-House Pete":

146181-1-2 St. Louis Blues

(W.C. Handy)

Not issued

146182-1-2 *Memphis Blues*

(W.C. Handy)

Not issued

146183-1-2 **Some Of These Days**

(Shelton Brooks)

Not issued

146184-1-2 *Hesitation Blues*

(Billy Smythe - Scott Middleton - Art Gillham)

Not issued

According to Brian Rust: "All takes of the above four titles were originally passed for issue, but a note written on the file cards reads 'Reject - our letter to Mr. Dodds 8-17-32. Ben Selvin.'

1928, May

Record released: Columbia 1319-D.

1928, May 5

Vicksburg, Ms: Evening Post full page of ads, p 8.



1928, May 5 Greenville, Ms Sanger Theatre announces Art Gillham

will appear on Thursday.

1928, May 5 Greenwood MS Saenger Newsette.

1928, May 7 Vicksburg, Ms: appeared at Saenger Theatre

1928, May 10 Record released: Columbia 14308-d (Barrelhouse Pete).

6750 copies pressed.

1928, May 10 Greenville, Ms: at Saenger Theatre.





1928, May 11 Greenwood, Ms: appears at Saenger Theatre

1928, May 12 Greenwood Sanger Newsette.

1928, May 28 Massillon, OH: Loew's for week

1928, May 12 Itta Bena, MS: surprise visit:



ART GILLHAM AT ITTA BENA

ITTA BENA, Miss., May 12-Art Gillham, the famous Columbia piano artist, was here in Itta Bena yesterday for a short time. He honored the people of this town with a few of his hits. Among them were: "I'd walk a million miles to be a little near-er to you," "So Tired," "Now that I have you," and "I'm drifting back to dreamland." Gillhams visit came as a complete surprise and only a few were fortunate in getting to hear him. Ralph Lembo, local music dealer, called Mr. Gillham and had him come over.

1928, June

Record released: Columbia 1353-D.



Cleveland, OH: State Theatre

ART GILLHAM TO MAKE APPEARANCES FRIDAY Art Gillham, celebrated recorder

Art Gillham, celebrated recorder for Columbia, will make two appearances at the Greenwood Theatre Friday, matinee and night. Music lovers and admirers of Gillham will have an opportunity to greet the star.

Back in August, 1922, someone dared Art Gillham to sing a song into the microphone at the Drake Hotel radio station in Chicago — where Art was playing piano for other artists to sing. And the result was—The Whispering Pianist—a character who is known from coast to coast—copied by dozens of radio and record artists, and listened to by thousands.

Art started traveling from staion to station in December, 1922, and is still at it. He received his itle from Lambdin Kay at WSB, Atlanta, Ga., Art's place of birth, because he talks and sings so softly, having the microphone on the This manpiano close to his lips. ner of broadcasting (which he also uses to make his Columbia records) gives his voice that confidential appeal to the heart strings, that has made Gillham and his sentimental songs famous. composer and most of his songs you hear are his own compositions. He tells you he weighs 376 pounds, is baldheaded, and "The World's Worst Piano Player," but when you see and hear him you have your own opinions and hate to hear him say, "Well, papa will have to stop now and go and get a cup of coffee,"

You've heard him, perhaps, over some one of the 287 radio stations from which he has broadcast, or on Columbia records; Art Gillham, "The Whispering Pianist," who comes to Loew's this week.

Five years ago, Gillham originated, by accident, the style of song-singing he has since made famous. White accompanying a radio singer on the piano, he was dared to sing a song himself into the microphone. He did so, and was at once engaged as a movelty singer on his own.



"Freeborn's Follies Revue" is the new attraction at the State. Gomes and Winona are the featured dancers, and the Six Dancing Rockets figure prominently in it.

Another feature is Art Giltham. "The Whispering Planist," who has an original style of playing the plano and the state of the stat

1928, June 10



'Thereminvox,' Gillham, Circus Act on New Bills; "Pearl," "Wings" Remain

To ABRAHAM'S BOSOM," Paul of 1927, is the choice new attraction that opens tonight at the Little Theorem and the content of th

Now that Art Gillham, the whispering pianist, has been here. Mr. Sump, I hope some of these other piano players will learn how to do the whispering stunt. The neighbors might appreciate it, especially late at night. What I'd like to see, Mr. Sump, would be a whispering piano, instead of pianist.

1928, July 28

1928, July Record released: Columbia 1392-D.

Baton Rouge, LA: Columbis Theatre

Quality is the first consideration at the Postoffice Cafe and the reason for its popularity. Tourists are loud in their praise of the dishes served. Art Gillham, here at the Greenwood Theatre Friday, after dining at the Postoffice Cafe, said although he had been in every state in the Union and dined in many cafes, he was better treated in Greenwood and served with the very best food. Gillham, nationally known as the "Whispering Pianist,"and radio and record star, is very particular about his diet and chose the Postoffice Cafe after hearing of its reputation.

Art Gillham Here For Appearances

Art Gillham, radio star and recorder for Columbia, arrived Greenwood shortly after midnight | t from Greenville, and will make four appearances here today. Art is scheduled for performances at the Greenwood Theatre at 4:30, 7:30 and 9:30. From 5 to 6 he will be at Jordan-Holmes Piano

Gillham, known over the United States as the "Whispering pianist." is the originator of singing over the radio while playing his own accompany.

Art is accompanied by his wife, and although this is their visit to Greenwood, they first like the city very much and are pleased with conditions here.

Considerable mystery surrounds the intriguing personality of Art A Gillham, "The Whispering Pianexclusive Columbia record artist, appearing today at the Greenwood Theatre.

the South, five years (ago, to Chicago came a young d piano accompanist, weighing 376 p pounds, bald-headed (if we believe what he says about him- self,) and addicted to strong coffee to carry him through the strain of a radio broadcast.

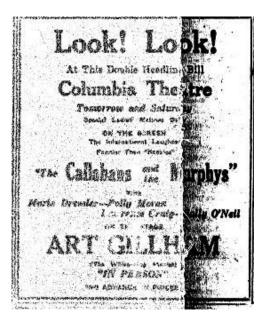
One day he was dared to sing S

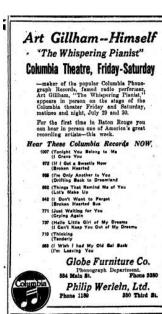
a song into the microphone. did so, and was engaged at once as a singing artist, to add songs to his piano playing. Since then he has broadcast from 287 stations and made over 50 double-

It was the informal, confidential nature of his singing that did it, but Art Gillham claims he is still puzzled over that.

"I envy the real singers," he says, "and for the piano part, I am the world's worst piano play-

But he isn't, perhaps because he plays just simple melodies only not quite as the little girl next door plays them. All art is a mystery, and so is Art.

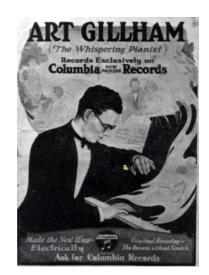






1928, August Record released: Columbia 1429-D

1928, August 2 Ad:



1928, August 3 New York: recorded 1 title for Okeh!

No credit on the label or in the master list.

Recording is listed as by "Billy Hayes Orchestra" but is a Sam Lanin orchestra.

141055 Why (Do I Love You Like I Do)

(Kern-Hammerstein)

Okeh 41091

1928, Aug. 15 New York: recorded 3 titles for Columbia:

146845-3 It's Never Too Late To Be Sorry

(J.E. Dempsey - Joe Burke)

Col 1540-D

146846-2 My Heart Cries Out For You

146846-3 My Heart Cries Out For You

(George Randall - Art Gillham)

Col 1572-D

146847-2 You Can't Take My Memories From Me

146847-3 You Can't Take My Memories From Me

(Joe Davis - Spencer Williams)

Col 1663-D

New York: recorded 3 titles for Columbia accompanied by Red Nichols, cornet and Arthur Schutt, piano:

146848-2 The Lamp Of Aladin

146848-3 The Lamp Of Aladin

(Johnson - Kennedy - Art Gillham)

146849-2 *Right Or Wrong*

146849-3 *Right Or Wrong*









1928, Aug. 16

(Sizemore - Biese)

Col 1540-D

146850-1 Somebody Else May Be Telling Her
Something (She'd Love To Hear
From You)



146850-2 Somebody Else May Be Telling Her Something (She'd Love To Hear From You)

(Joe Goodwin - Larry Shay)

Col 1572-D

1928, August 19 Elmira, NY Keeney Theatre







At the Melodie Shoppe Elmira, NY





Ted Lewis

and HIS BAND King for a Day Moonlight Madness

Paul Whiteman

and HIS ORCHESTRA
Out-of-Town Gal
Just a Little Bit of Driftwood

Ben Selvin

and HIS ORCHESTRA

Jeanine | Dream of Lilac Time
Grieving

Art Gillham

Whisporing Planist (vocal)
My Heart is Aching for My
Old Gal
I'm Missing the Kissing of
Someone Else.
Come in and hear these

Fuller Music Co.

192 Pipestone St. Benton Harbor



Back in 1922 at the Drake hotel in Chicago, which was then stating. WDAP. Art Gillham started broadcasting as a pianist for singers who as you was any over the station. Some one to was a writer and had quite a few songs in print at that time, he sang one of his own songs and accompanied himself at the plano. The instant response of the radio listensymmetric himself and the property of the proper

1928, August 26

Indianapolis Lyric Theatre

One of the attractions on this evening's schedule of WFBM will be the appearance of Art Gillham, better known as the "Whispering Planist." Mr. Gillham will be heard at 8:30 o'clock and will present his usual songs and piano patter.

Art Gillham, exclusive Columbia recording artist, known to radio, record and theatre audiences as "The Whispering Pianist," recently started a lengthy tour of the Pantages circuit, having opened in Indianapolis on August 26.

1928, August 29 Indianapolis WFMB

LYRIC—Vaudeville and Pictures.
The seven acts of vaudeville which the Lyric theater presents this week are headed by Art Gilliam, well known to radio as well as theatries!
Independent of the monologue and he contrives to give his audiences the need to the monologue and he contrives to give his audiences a very pleasant fifteen minutes. His act was received will by the first house yesterday afternoon.



Art Gillham, "The Whispering Pianist," will headline the new week's vauderille program at the Lyric. Out of the south five years ago, he went to Chicago as an accompanist, weighing 376 pounds, baldheaded (if we can believe what he says about himself), and addicted to the use of strong coffee to carry him through the strain of a radio proadcast. One day he was dared to sing a song into the microphone. He did so, and was at once engaged to add songs to his piano playing. Since then he has broadcast from 287 stations and made numerous phonograph records. The added attraction for the bill is boys and two gifts, their talent, aid to be sufficiently different to provide variety and still dovetail. Davis and Dwan are featured in the act. This team was in Carroll's "Vanities."

on Pantages Bill Radio listeners throughout the Radio listeners throughout the country have long admired the singing and playing of Art Gilliam, gibe Whispering Planist" who, since his first radio introduction at station WDAP, Drake hotel, Chicaco, Tive years ago, has been featured from 281 radio stations and rational results and the stations and results are statement of the records. At the Paniages theater this week, Gillham is appearing in a whispering song program, a style which he originated. New Lyric Bill

Whispering Pianist'

Is Added Attraction

ing song program, a style which he originated.

In his act, Mr. Gillham offers a program made up of the songs through which he has become famous both as a radio artist and as a recording star. During his engagement he will play and sing a few of his own compositions from one of the Jocal radio stations.

Five years ago Mr. Gillham originated, by accident, the style of songstaining he has since made famous. While accompanying a radio singer on the piano, he was dared to sing a song hinnelf into the microphone, as an onveity singer on the consequence of the style is informal and confidential. Each word, though sung low, is perfectly clear.



VAUDEVILLE
FLASHES OF ART
A Deluxe Fantasy of Song and
Dance featuring
"MONYA"—DANCE D'ARTISTE

ART GILLHAM he Whispering Pianist Columbia Record Artist

OTHER, ACTS STARTING FRIDAY "BUDDY" ROGERS

Star of "Wings" a College Story Flaming Youth "RED LIPS"

Columb Records

Ted Lewis

and HIS BAND King for a Day Moonlight Madness

Paul Whiteman

and HIS ORCHESTRA
Out-of-Town Gal
Just a Little Bit of Driftwood

Ben Selvin

and HIS ORCHESTRA Jeanine i Dream of Lilac Time Grieving

Art Gillham

Whisporing Planist (vocal) My Heart is Aching for My Old Cial I'm Missing the Klasing of Someone Else. Come in and hear these at

Fuller Music Co.

192 Pipestone St. Benton Harbor

1928, Sept 11 Ad

ED

1928, Sept 16 Minneapolis Pantages Theatre

Art's Theatre Tour of West Coast

1928, Sept Sacramento



1928, Oct

Folio issues:

Art Gillham Folio Issued

Joe Davis, head of the Triangle Music Publishing Co., New York City, has just issued an Art Gillham, "The Whispering Pianist," folio of sob songs. The folio comprises ten of the songs which Mr. Gillham, record and radio favorite, has recorded for the Columbia Phonograph Co. catalog. It lists at fifty cents.

1928, Oct

tours eastern Canada and midwest

Art Gillham on Road Tour

Art Gillham, exclusive Columbia artist, best known as "The Whispering Pianist," is on another swing around the country. To date his tour has included eastern Canada and the middle States. At every stop along the road the public turned out strongly, and judging from dealer reports, no moss has been given an opportunity to gather on the records of this well-liked artist.

1928, Oct

Record released: Columbia 1472-D.

Oct 14, 1928

Ad







1928, Oct 19

Syndicated interview with Irene Beasley concerning Art's helping her get Started in radio. Several such interviews crediting Art with getting her started.



1928, Oct. 22 Seattle: Pantages Theatre: Daily Times had a full page of articles, photos and ads for Art Gillham records.



GILLHAM MAKES RECORDS DURIN

Pantages Headliner duces More Than Fifty for Columbia Company; Stars on Vaudeville Stage

Whispering Art Gillham, exclusive Columbia recording artist and current headliner at the Pantages Theatre was first signed by the Columbia. Phonograph Company in 1924 and in addition to hundreds of radio performances and several vaudeville engagements he has found time to produce more than fifty records for that company. A number of his records are: records are:

- "You May Be Lonesome."
 "I Had Someone Else Before I Had
- You."
 "Hesitation Blues."
 "Second Hand Love."
 "I Wish I Had My Old Gal Back

- "I Wish I Had My Old Gal Back Again."
 "I'm Leaving You."
 "Tenderly."
 "Thinking."
 "I Can't Keep You Out of My Dreams."
- Oreams."
 "Hello Little Girl of My Dreams."
 "Just Waiting For You."
 "Crying Again."
 "I Don't Want to Forget."
 "Broken Hearted Sue."
 "Things That Remind Me of You."
 "Lets Make Up."
 "Tm Drifting Back to Dreamland."
 "I'm Only Another to You."

- "Lets Make Op.
 "I'm Only Another to You."
 "Broken Hearted."
 "It I Get a Sweetle Now."
 "Tonight You Belong to Me."
 "I Love You."
 "The Waiting for Ships That Never Come In."
 "Pretty Little Thing."
 "That Saxophone Waltz."
 "I Could Waltz on Forever."
 "I'd Walk a Million Miles."
 "Flutter By-Butterfly."
 "I Love You But I Don't Know Why."
 "Just Before You Broke My.
 Heart."
 "The Pal You Left at Home."
- "The Pal You Left at Home."
 "Twiddlin' My Thumbs."
 "Now I won't Be Blue."
- "What a Wonderful Night This Would Be." "So Tired."

ART GILLHAM HAS QUIET KNACK OF PLEASING FOLKS

He Chatters and Produces Soft Notes on Piano and Sings His Songs in Whispering Tone of Voice.

Now, as Mr. Kipling says, there is a young man named Art Gillham, who plays the plano and sings. He opened at the Pantages Theatre today. He has the ear of people, because in five years he has played and sung out to the air from 287 radio stations, and people will not like. When people want to hear him some more, and he is not on the air just then, they buy his Columbia phonograph records, and on these he croons to them of things that make them smile, or warm their hearts, but mostly the latter, because that is what people need most.

He zays of himself that he plays the piano very badly, but he is too modest, for this is not so. He plays very simple melodies, or at least they seem so, for not many people can do this thing, being mostly desirous of making a loud noise. They call him "the whispering planist."

Sings in a Whisper.

Sings in a Whisper.

He sings like that, too. You can hear every word that he sings, and his voice has little unexpected tricks in it, but they are all very pleasant to hear, informal and confiding, as the really greatest men usually are. Fortunate indeed are those folks who, can hear Art Gillham play and sing at The Pantages this week.

Back in 1922 at the Drake Hotel, which was then station WDAP, Art Gillham started broadcasting as a planist for singers who sang over the station. Someone dared Gillham to sing a song, and as he was a writer and had quite a few songs in print at that time, he sang one of his own and accompanied himself at the plane. The instant response of the radio listeners proved to him that he had found something just a little bit different.

While on his first tour of stations he worked at WSP attentions. Gillham started broadcasting as a planist for singers who sang over the station. Someone dared Gillham to sing a song, and as he was a writer and had quite a few songs in print at that time, he sang one of his own and accompanied himself at the plane. The instant response of the radio listeners proved to him that he had found something just a little bit different.

While on his first tour of stations he worked at WSB, Atlanta, Ga., and there Lambdin Kay gave him the name of the "Whispertog Pianist," which has become a nationally known cognomen. Since



that time Gillham has worked at nearly three hundred radio stations in the United States and Canada and his whispering style of singing is being used by artists all over the country on the radio.

plano and he croons his melodies in such a manner that his listeners in front of the loud speakers and the phonographs, or in the theatre, real-ize the intimacy of his work, as he seems to talk to each one individu-

ally.

Taken all in all, Art Gillham, the
"whispering planist," is just a little
bit different.

Of German design is an airplans weighing but 600 pounds, having a wang spread of forty-three feet and driven by a two-cylinder, twenty-horsepower motor.

Postal services of Great Britain will have a surplus of \$41,500,000 for 1927-1928, according to latest esti-

1928, Nov

Record released: Columbia 1540-D.

1928, Nov

Art is on the cover of the Columbia Supplement

PHONOGRAPH STAR **NOW AT PANTAGES**

Art Gillham, the whispering planist, exclusive Columbia recording artist and vaudeville star, is here this week at the Pantages Theatre. Mr. Gillham in the comparatively short time that he has been known to the American public has accom-plished a record for popularity and production that is impressive, indeed. His plano accompaniments and his style of signing are of a character that is simplicity itself and thereby probably hangs the reason why he is so universally admired, for true artists are said to possess this characteristic to a remarkable degree.

An admiring public should be grateful, indeed, to the modern scisuch an artist though he may be hundreds of miles away when he is singing. That the pleasure of hearing his voice at will is a fact which all take as a matter of course, for his songs have been preserved on Co-lumbia records which may be played whenever desired. A hungry public has required him to produce records in a volume that is nothing short of astonishing, for the current list of his recordings numbers well over fifty.

In these days of modern science and invention people are heard that we never expect to see—many attractive personalities never get out in:o this far western country—and in the busy course of everyday life their talents could never be duly appreci-ated unless the phonograph and the radio made it possible.

This week, however, a national figure in the world of modern music appears at the Pantages Theatre, where all may have the opportunity to see and hear him. The desire to associate the appearance and the personal characteristics of one of whom much is known, but who has not apmuch is known, but who has not appeared locally, may be satisfied. Regardless of the number of photographs one may have seen, nothing is as substantial as seeing the artist himself.

Thousands of people all over the country have wanted to see Art Gillham, the Whispering Pianist, and now the opportunity is presented—for beginning today he will appear all week at the Pantages Theatre.

Tacoma, WA.: at Pantages Theatre. Movie was Ronald Coleman and Vilma Banky in *Two Lovers. Tacoma Sunday Ledger*





Australian ad

Portland: The *Morning Oregonian*. Full page ad. p 7; at Pantages Theatre.

ART GILLHAM HELPS WITH HOOT OWL FUN

Pantages Headliner at Roost With Young Son.

PROGRAM OFFERS MUSIC

"Whispering Pianist" Arrives for Friday Frolic Just After Inaugural Ceremony.

Art Gillham, a hard-working "fat boy" trying to get along, paid formal reall on the Keep Growing Wlaer order of Hoot Owla Friday night. And in so honoring the KCW trustees. in so honoring the KGW funstees Mr. Gillham's young son Art created quite a sensation among radio folk of the northwest with whom the high-powered monologist is a real-

favorite.

Mustled into the EGW roost fresh from his headline act at the Pattagen theater, the "whispering planist" servived on the scene just in time to follow the conventional inaugural ceremony of the owis. Frank Sardam performed the introductory ballyhoo, the "big time" radio star took his place at the plane and the show was on.

Gillhow to Charles

place at the piano and the show was en.

Gillham An Old Performer.

It was the same old Art Gillham who first "played" KGW 'way back in the good old days when both he and KGW were in the aspiring class. Both Art and KGW have gone a long ways since then and it's hard to say just which one has the edge. Art, if one remembers that far back, is one of the few present time headliners, who got his start shortly after the inception of broadcasting. His intimate style at the microphone won him the appellation "whitspering plantse" and through constant service to the radio public and national "barnstorming" trips he has worked his way to a point where the hame Gillham means as much the hame Gillham means as much the hame Gillham means as much the hame casting by broadcasting he had so worked his way to a point where the hame Gillham means as much to radio at Heins does to pickles.

Accompanying the "whitspering plants" to KGW was Davy Jamison, who inkinted a new stunt in broadcasting by broadcasting a sailvo of tap dancing. He turned the trick very neathly by placing a small platform on the floor in freen of the microphone and the clicks of his toes and heels made a novel act for the Hoot Owl customers.

and heels made a novel act for the Hoot Owl customers.

THE MORNING OFFICENCES, WEISTERLY, NOTTURE IS, NOW



Hear GILLHAM

Exclusive Columbia Recording Artist

THIS WEEK-

PANTAGES THEATER

Night

REMICK'S



lemick's Song and Gift Shop

DANCE

George McMurphey



Columbia Recording Orchestra

McELROY'S SPANISH BALLROOM

Dancing Every Week Night

Art Gillham-Geo. McMurphey

VERN L. WENGER CO.

264 Alder St. ATwater 0429

SEE THEM HEAR THEM

EXCLUSIVE RECORDS

POSTOFFICE PHAR.

YOUR EAST SIDE DEALER

State and Go DES. NAME BY ST

POTTER DRUG CO.

Art Gillham

Will Personally Appear

Today, 12:30 to 1

he he commend the state of south and the state of the sta

- ** Depth State State as to
- in the Board Lannage for the code had the Board the Electric of Sections In Decide the State on the State of

on the same of the same

Portland's Own Store Is Headquarters for

Columbia Viva-tonal Records

Meier Trank lo.

HEAR

George McMurphey

Orchestra

in Our Stock Flow Audiociers

Teckry, 12:30 to 1

for all radio begins job project "Proop" (but an

on beating The Books of



Art Gillhers Records MERCALI DONA ENGRAPH.

Art Gillham-Geo. McMurphey

COLUMBIA RECORDING ORCHESTRA

Exclusive Columbia any process provid artist at the Pastages and in your home always, when you hay his Columbia Recordings at our store. Come in and hear Another exclusive Columbia artist that will win your beart. Hear die bund's seconds and you will agree they are great. Come in Wednesday and see and bear Records



Geo. McMurphey's Columbia Recording Orchestra Here in Person Wednesday from 2 to 2:30

them play.

MUSIC

OFTLAND'S GREAT MUSIC STORE

Fourth near Morrison

PORTLAND'S GREAT MUSIC STORE

CO.

'CUT-UPS" VIE AT PANTAGES

Art Gillham, Davey Jamieson and Bill Telaak Convulse Holiday Audience With Their Clowning.

T'S men's week in the new bill at I the Pantages this week, and direct the core will have to be divided among Art Gillham, who admits that he the world's greatest asp; Davey Jamisson, who is running him A dead heat for the laurels, and Bill Telask, who with Iren Dean as an attractive foil, proceeds to win the hearts of the audience with his ridiculous anticulp roces with the hearts of the audience with his ridiculous anticulp rocess of the audience with his ridiculous anticulp rocess. The Gillham chap's whatever that thispering fact inductively has a way with the tworkes that is pleasing to listen to, and accompanies his music with a line of amiable patter. His phonograph and radio listeners will enjoy seeing him in person.

TODAY'S AMUSEMENT GUIDE.

Drama in Person.

Dufwin-Leo Carrillo and Henry
Duffy Players in "Magnolia."
Tonight at 8:20.

Tonight at \$20.

Yauddim Programs.

Pantages—Modena's "Flashes of Art." Art Gillham (the whispering pinnist"), one of the wandeville. Photoplay, Olive Portland - Franchon & Marco's "Orlentale Lidea." Walles Beery in photoplay, "Beggars of Life." Gene Morgan.

New Films.

Art Gillham, the "Whispering Pianist" and exclusive Columbia recording artist, was the headliner at the Pantages Theatre during the third week of November, and while here dealer. tied up with the artist in full-page advertise ments in the daily papers.



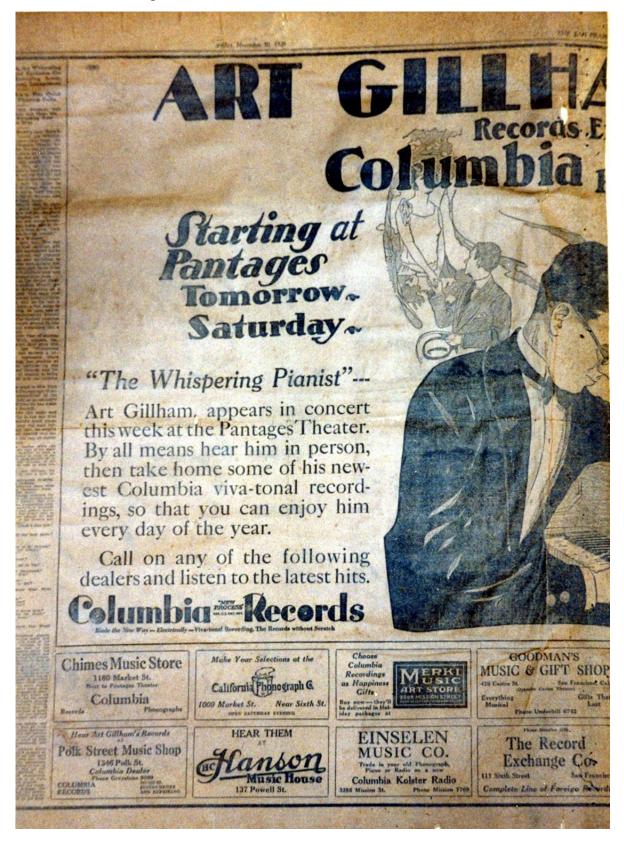
Biggest Show of the Year

Flashes of Art
Featuring MONYA
Ernesto and Six Concert
Singers.

Art Gillham
"The Whispering Planist"
IN PERSON

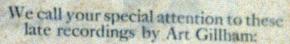
Other Big Star Acts
And on the Screen:
"STOOL PIGEON"
Olive Borden and Chas.
Delaney.
An Expose of the Gangster
World—Fowerful, Dramatic

San Francisco: newspaper has two full pages spread with a large drawing of Art over both pages and small ads from 16 stores carrying his records. The ad lists 10 records available from 1152-D through 1572-D. San Francisco newspaper, pp 16-17; reported to have broadcast from 287 stations.



(The Whispering Pianist)

clusively on New Records



1572-D Somebody Else May Be Telling Her Semething My Heart Cries Out for You

1540-D | Right or Wrong It's Never Too Late to Be Sorry

1429-D | Nobody's Lonesome but Me In My Sweetheart's Arms

1392-D | Geel But I'm Blue I'm Longing for My Old Gal Sal

1353-D I Found You Out When I Found You In Hours I Spent With You

1319-D | Silver-Haired Sweetheart | Who Gives You All Your Kisses

1282-D You'd Rather Forget Than Forgive So Tired

1253-D | Now I Won't Be Blue | What a Wonderful Night This Would Be

1194-D | Twiddlin' My Thumbs (Don't Forget) The Pal You Left at Home

1152-D | I Love You but I Don't Know Why Just Before You Broke My Heart

chwabacher-Frey

COLUMBIA KOLSTER COLUMBIA RECORDS

Calumbia Photograph & Records



F. D. Piccirillo & Co.

1447 STOCKTON STREET

We Have Art Gilham's Latest Releases

Heine Piano Co.

949 Muches St.

Hear Art Gillham's Latest



What's New We Hare



Secure Art Gillham's

The Spanish Book Store

Goldsteldig Decides Specializing in Furnige Reseate 1900 tropics. 850 Stranbery 1973 2nd St.

Full Line of Subsects Store to House, Columbia Robins Basini

Radio Victor Sales Co.



1928, Dec Record released: Columbia 1572-D.

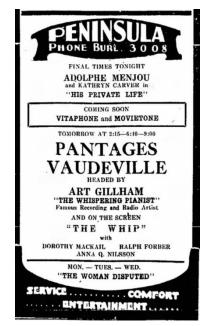
1928, Dec. 1 San Francisco: at Pantages Theatre for week.





1928, Dec 7

San Mateo Pantages Theatre



1928, Dec Los Angeles: Pantages Theatre.





1928, Dec 18 San Diego: Pantages Theatre



ART GILLHAM The Whispering Pianist, of Columbia Record Far will appear personally in these music stores.

Pan Music Shop, 1209 Fifth, 8 p.m. Wednesday. R. L. Tamplin, Columbia Headquarters, 733 Bdwy., 11 a.m. Thursday. Hancock Music Company, 30th and University, 11 a.m. Saturday.



...will appear in person in this store 11 a.m. Thursday

To Autograph His Records for You and to Meet His Admirers

The personality of Art Gillham in person is as vivid and winning as the familiar voice of his Columbia recordings. Come in and meet him— be will gladly autograph his records for you.

This store carries a complete list of Art Gillham's entertaining records—as well as the complete catalog of ALL Columbia records.

Columbia Headquarters

R. L. TAMPLIN **COLUMBIA STORE**

^a 733 Broadway



-will be in our store at 11 a.m. Friday

Come in and meet him. He will autograph his records while here

tsear nim at the Pantages this week, then let us play his records for you—they are like life itself. Why not give Art Gillham autographed records for Christmas gifts?

aplete line Columbia Records. nediate delivery on Columbia-Kolster Radios.

HANCOCK MUSIC CO.



Meet Him Here At 8 o'Clock Wed. Evening

Open Evenings

Pan Music Shop

1929

Sheet Music Somewhere There's Someone, Lillian Madson & Art Gillham, J W Jenkins Music

1929

Australian Columbia catalog, through December 1928, lists 14 Art Gillham records. The catalog also shows 1 Whisper Billy Day, 5 Little Jack Little, 4

Ukulele Ike, 11 Vaughn de Leath

1929, Jan

Record released: Columbia 1619-D

1929, Jan 3

Music Trade Review

Art Gillham in Vaudeville

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., January 3.—Art Gillham has just finished a remarkably successful series of appearances at the Pantages Theatre, here. This performer, known as the "Whispering Pianist," records for the Columbia Phonograph Co., and during his engagement Columbia dealers co-operated in advertising the pianist, taking space in local papers. A. J. Schrade, manager for the Columbia concern here, stated that this resulted in a very excellent sale of Art Gillham's records throughout the territory.

1929, Jan 10 -11 Ogden UT Orpheum Pantages Theatre



OGDEN

MUSIC CO.

Great Musician Appears Today at the Orpheum

Art Gillham, whispering pianist, he of the thrilling whisper voice, headlines today's and tomorrow's "Pan" show at the Orpheum. The whole bill is splendid, including four other wonderful acts and a Vitaphone picture, featuring Conrad Nagel and Myrna Loy, "Slightly Used." It is a tremendous drama of a girl who played a little too much. But Gillham is the wow. It is seldom that an artist of Giltham's calibre comes to Ogden. To ht is seison that an actor of the ham's calibre comes to Ogden. To accommodate the crowds the Orpheum runs four vaudeville shows Saturday. A complete shows can be seen anytime up to 10 o'clock at night. The Orpheum requests at night. The Orpheum reques patrons to come early and late.

HEARD ON RADIO

Art Gillham, famous recording artist and radio performer, occupies the second spot and, despite a heavy coid, charmed his audience with his piano playing and singing. Gillham made several appearances over the radio after he arrived in Utah and the crowd Friday was plainly made, up of a great number of people who had attended to hear him in person.

Twelve girls appear in the third act which is a delightfully arranged and staged dancing production. It is not broken into by singing and the girls are exceptionally well trained. The solo dancing numbers are well received. The act carries an extremely clean look, with all costumes and secery bright and new.

The comedy of the bill is furnished in the last two acts. Telak and Dean have rapid patter and perform on the violin and piano They drew heavy applause. Herras and Wallace also carry a punch of comedy and a great deal of clever tumbling.







ers, who present a rather novel act, resturing good denoing and a sym-pathetic rendition of "Sonny Boy." The act is singed very attractively, with every character representing a dell.

The act is sunged very attractively, with every character representing a deil.

Act Guilliam, famous recording artist and radio performer, occupies the second speak of continue, occupies the second speak of the audionace with his plantage and singuistic continues over the radio after he arrived in Utah and the erowd Fridge was plainly made up of, a great number of people who had attended to hear him in person.

The world in the second straight and the side and singuistic appear in the third second by the second side of the second straight and the girls are, exceptionally well trained. The sole dancing members are well received. The act carries an extremely clean look, with all contenses and second se





HEAR AND SEE Art Gillham -ON---

PANTAGES

Friday and Saturday

Then Hear These RECORDS

1619-China Town Just for Tonight Art Gillham, Whispering Pianist

1572-My Heart Cries Out Somebody Else

1472-My Heart Aching For You My Old Gal I'm Missing the Kissing of Someone

1573—I Foun' You Out When I Foun' You In Hours I Spent-With You

1051-I'm Waiting for Ships That Never Return Pretty Little Thing

892—Things That Remind Mc of You Let's Make Up

OGDEN MUSIC CO.

Columbia Records Radios and Phonographs Exclusively.

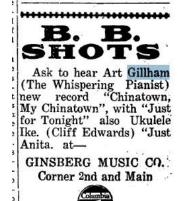
2452 Washington Ave.

1929, Jan 12

Omaha World Theatre







1929, Jan 12

1929, Feb 1

1929, Feb 6

1929, Feb 7

1929, Feb. 14

Music Trade Review reports successful Western Vaudeville tour.

HEARD ON RADIO

Art Gillham, famous recording artist and radio performer, occupies the second spot and, despite a heavy cold, charmed his audience with his piano playing and singing. Glilham made several appearances over the radio after he arrived in Utah and the crowd Friday was plainly made up of a great number of people who had attended to hear him in person.

Joe Davis, head of the Triangle Music Publishing Co., New York, has announced that his new "plug" song for 1929 will be "Susianna," which he describes as a sweet, syncopated Southern love song. The words and music were written by Speneer Williams, writer of "I Ain't Got Nobody," which is still a big Triangle seller. The other new feature song in the Triangle catalog is a waltz ballad, entitled "You Can't Take My Memories From Me."

Other new releases will be "Pay No Attention," written by John Meehan, Jr., and Walter Feldkamp, and "The Lamp of Alladi Aladdin," by Art Gillham and Fred Johnson. Two new movelty piano solos will also be released. One is "Silk Stockings (Full of Runs)," by Bob Downey and Lee Morse, and "Fifth Avenue," by Walter Feldkamp. The two novelty numbers, "Punch and Judy" and "Serenata," have been arranged as saxophone solos for early release. arranged as saxophone solos for early release





February 1st, Release

On Columbia Records . . .

1929, Jan 20 Kansas City Pantages Theater 1929, Jan 28 Kansas City Pantages Theater 1929 Jan 28 Columbia ad 1663-D 1929, Jan 29 Omaha: World Theatre 1929, Feb Talking Machine World reports Art recording 2 Triangle Music songs: YouCan't Take My Memories "THE MAN WHO LAUGHS" from Me and The Lamp of Aladin (recorded in August, 1928).

TAGES ART GILLHAM IN PERSON 4-OTHER BIG ACTS-4 MARKED MONEY ALL STAR CAST STARTING FRIDAY
VICTOR HUGO'S MASTERPIECE MARY PHILBIN

Columbia ad 1663-D as Special Release. Two Art Gillham Recordings Art Gillham, known to the radio world as the

Kansas City MO: Pantages Theater

Kansas City Pantages Theater

1929, Feb 11 Memphis Press Scimitar p 10.

Memphis: at Pantages Theatre for week.

Personal appearance at Lowenstein's in the record department.



"Whispering Pianist," recently recorded two new Joe Davis songs entitled "You Can't Take

My Mem'ries From Me" and "The Lamp of Aladdin" on Columbia records. Both numbers

are selling well in sheet music form and are near the top of the Triangle Music Publishing Co.'s catalog, which also lists several other popular song releases.



PAUL'S

THE JONES STORE CO

1929, Feb 23

Music Trade Review

Two Art Gillham Recordings

Art Gillham, known to the radio world as the "Whispering Pianist," recently recorded two new Joe Davis songs entitled "You Can't Take My Mem'ries From Me" and "The Lamp of Aladdin" on Columbia records. Both numbers are selling well in sheet music form and are near the top of the Triangle Music Publishing Co.'s catalog, which also lists several other popular song releases.

1929, Feb 25

Kansas City Pantages Theater

1929, Feb. 28

New York: recorded 2 titles for Columbia accompanied by Red Nichols, cornet, Andy Sannella, clarinet, Ben Selvin, violin, other strings, Eddie Lang, guitar, Harry Barth, bass, Rube Bloom, piano:

LEATRICE JOY and H. B. WARNER in

"MAN-MADE WOMEN"

5 ACTS OF VAUDEVILLE
JEAN SCHWARZ REVUE
TELAAK & DEAN
LIAZEED TROUPE
GORDON & GROFF
PERETTOS
STARTING FRIDAY
ART GILLHAM—"THE
WHISPERING PIANIST"

148008-1 **Some Sweet Day** (from Children of the Ritz) (3 takes)

148008-2 **Some Sweet Day** (from Children of the Ritz)

(Nat Shilkret - Lew Pollack)

Col 1726-D

148009-2 I Love You, I Love You, I Love You, Sweetheart Of All My Dreams

148009-3 I Love You, I Love You, I Love You, Sweetheart Of All My Dreams

(Fitch - Fitch - Lowe)

Col 1726-D

1929, Mar

Record released: Columbia 1663-D

1929, Mar 1

Kansas City Pantages Theatre



1929, Mar. 5

New York: recorded 3 titles for Columbia, probably accompanied by Andy Sannella, guitar:

148019-1 Two Little Rooms

148019-3 Two Little Rooms

(Lee Tish)

Col 1919-D

148020-1 Somewhere There's Someone

148020-3 Somewhere There's Someone

(Madson - Art Gillham)



Col 1802-D

148025-1-2-3 You've Made My Dreams Come True

(Hornsby - Pomar)

Not issued (resumed on March 21, 1929)

1929, Mar. 6

New York: recorded 3 titles for Columbia, accompanied by Red Nichols, cornet, Andy Sannella, clarinet, Rube Bloom, violin, Harry Barth, bass, Rube Bloom, piano. The first title was released only in Australia:

148034-3 My Swanee River Home

(Kindel Henderson)

Not issued in USA

Col 01542 (Australia)

148035-1 Tell Me There's Hope For Me

148035-3 Tell Me There's Hope For Me

(Davis - Johnson)

Col 1944-D

148036-1 *What Wouldn't I Do* (3 takes)

148036-2 What Wouldn't I Do

(Jaffe - Boland)

Col 1802-D



1929, Mar. 7 New York, recorded 3 titles for Columbia accompanied by Red Nichols, cornet, Andy Sannella, alto sax, clarinet, Eddie Lang, guitar, Harry Barth, bass, Rube Bloom, piano:

148041-1-2 *I'm Nobody's Baby*

((Davis - Ager - Santly)

Not issued

test pressing take 2 in Library of Congress (http://lccn.loc.gov/2007650858)

148042-2 *True Blue*

148042-3 *True Blue*

(Gillespie - Garland)

Col 1919-D

148043-2 *On The Alamo* (3 takes)

(Gus Kahn - Isham Jones)

Col 1944-D



1929, Mar. 8

New York, recorded 1 title for Columbia probably accompanied by Red Nichols, cornet, Ben Selvin, violin, unknown second violin, Eddie Lang, guitar, Harry Barth, bass, Rube Bloom, piano:

148047-1-2-3 Blue Little You, And Blue Little Me (3 takes)

(Davis - Johnson)

Not issued (resumed March 18, 1929)

1929, Mar. 18 second title:

New York: recorded 2 titles for Columbia accompanied by violin on

148047-5 Blue Little You, And Blue Little Me (as 3-8-29)

148047-6 Blue Little You, And Blue Little Me (as 3-8-29)

(Davis - Johnson)

'Col 2016-D

148101-1-2-3 *I'm Still Caring* (violin accomp)

(Rudy Vallee - John Klenner)

Not issued (resumed on March 29, 1929)

1929, March 20 Talking Machine and Radio Weekly on cover



1929, Mar. 21

New York, recorded 1 title for Columbia:

148025-4 You've Made My Dreams Come True

148025-5 You've Made My Dreams Come True

(Hornsby - Pomar)

Col 1873-D (resumed from March 5, 1929)

1929, Mar. 29

New York, recorded 2 titles for Columbia accompanied by violin and piano:

148101-4 *I'm Still Caring* (3 takes)

148101-5 *I'm Still Caring*



(Rudy Vallee - John Klenner)

Col 1873-D

148148-2 If You Know What I Know

148148-3 If You Know What I Know

(Howard Johnson - Art Gillham)

Col 2016-D

1929, c. Mar. 29 Reported that Art broke his hand and had to cancel a 26 week vaudeville tour and

unable to record for eight months. However, he did appear in theatres in June and

July.

1929, Apr 1 Record released: Columbia 1726-D.

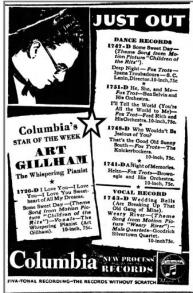
1929, Apr. 2 New York: letter from Ben Than of MGM releasing Art from his Movietone

contract, no films are known to have been made. He was living at the Hotel

Pasadena, 10 West 61st St. in New York.







1929, Apr 5

Columbia ad 1726-D

1929, April 7

Cleveland:





What Columbia Has.

Two good vocal effects are found in Art Gillham's record of "Sweetheart of All My Dreams" and "Some Sweet Day," and in the Goodrich Silvertown Quartet's singing of "Wedding Bells" and "Weary River." Both should find favor with those who like their music sung.



Art Gillham, the "whispering planist," will be guest arts; of the Majestic hour, broadcast by WaRG an associated stations beginning at 'o'clock Sunday eventing. Art will be assisted by Wendell Hall, the "redheaded masso maker;" Stanley Davis saw vurtuoso; Redferne Hollundrand tenor, and Arnold Johnson's orchestra.

MAJESTIC THEATER OF THE AIR

1929, April 11 Contract to appear on Majestic Theatre of the Air:

> Art Gillham, 364-pound "whispering planist," is to be the Sunday night guest of Wendell Hall in the theater of the air, a Columbia chain

1929, April 12 Springfield, IL: Music Shop

1929, April 25 Columbia ad 1720-D

1929, April 28 Columbia ad 1726-D

1929, May Record released: Columbia 1802-D

1929, May 4 Music Trade Review

and between Origing-Grance Company, hereinafter known as the ENTIREN, and art Gillham, hereinafter known as the AMINT, for sident Hour known as the "Disjectic Theatre of the Air", over the is Broatcasting System through rails station \$450 from nine to ten o'clock funtay evening, Sastern Stantari Time. The Affections agrees to use the Artist on the Enjectic Too 18th, 19th and further agrees to pay the Artist four handred 00,00) dollars for proviousling on the aforemail into and houf The Arist agrees to got on an art on the Majestic Mour with a minimum of ant less than two ten minute periods and a maximum of not more than two twelve minute periods, assertal to be The Artist further agrees to be present at the ge rehearmal from 2:20 to 4:30 o'clock and complete dress rehearmal from 4:20 to 5:20 o'clock on the afternoon of the broadcast as The Artist further agrees to permit the Atvertiser to east photographs in any way they see fit relative to t

Gillham on Majestic Program

Art Gillham, known as the whispering pianist, and popular as a Columbia record artist, will be the featured artist on the program of the Majestic "Theatre-In-the-Air" on Sunday, May 12, on which oceasion he will sing a number of selections which he has recorded for Columbia.

MUSIC SHOP TO SELL NEW "VIVA-TONAL" PHONOGRAPH RECORDS

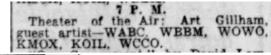
The Music Shop, 221. South Fifth street, has been successful in obtaining dealership for Columbia Street, has been successful in obtaining dealership for Columbia Vivia-tonal" phanograph records, upon which are recorded some of America's most peopular dance or-chestras, councilants and his orchestra, Caiv Lombardo and his Royal Canadians, Iran Selvin and his orchestra, Caiv Lombardo and his Royal Canadians, Iran Selvin and his orchestra, Caiv Lombardo and his Royal Canadians, Iran Selvin and his orchestra, Caiv Lombardo and his Royal Canadians, Iran Selvin and Landau, Iran Landau, Iran Selvin and Landau, Iran La

On the Columbia list there are the eleven new titles. Ben Selvin and orchestra are as warm as usual in "Miss You" and "Junior," the latter by Walter Donaldson. Dave Bernle does the "Babbling Brook" and "I Want to Meander," slow, rhythmic fox trots. The Ipana Troubadours launch and maintain fine attack on "Just a Little Glimpse of Paradise" and "There Was Nothing Else to Do."

Followers of Art Gilham, whispering planist, will like bly clear and lush "I'm Still Carting" and "The Still Carting" and "The Still Carting" and "Still Carting" and Still Carting and Still C

1929, May 12

Radio CBS Majestic Theater of the Air Hour at 9:00 pm.



Art Gillham With Wendal Hall Head Columbia Program

Art Gillham, the "Whispering Pianist." will head the program that the "Majestic Theatre of the Air" will present over a nationwide network of stations of the Columbia Broadcasting system at 7 o'clock Central time tonight.

Wendell Hall, the "Red-Headed Music-Maker" and regular master of ceremonies of this hour, will introduce Gillham, a fellow broadcasting pioneer.

The complete program is as fol-

I Ain't Got Nothin' to Loar Group of Songs Art Gillham

Mother's Medley (introducing "Dream Mother's Medley (introducing "Dream Mother' and "Old Fashioned Lady" Arnold Johnson's Orchestra Harriet Lee and Wendell Hall Choruses The Better Land Redferne Hollinshead Mean to Me

Redferne Hollinshead
Mean to Me
Wonderful Mother of Mine
Redferne Hollinshead
There's a Four Leaf Clover in My Pocket
Arnold Johnson's Orchestra
Rock of Ages—Spiritual
Group of Songs Art Gillham
Dark Eyes—Saw Virtuoso Solo
Stanley Davis
Southern Medley (introducing "Dinah")
Arnold Johnson's Orchestra
Harriet Lee Chorus
Group of Songs
Art Gillham
My Mother's Eyes
Wanderer's Quartet

WHISPERING PIANIST.

ART GILHAM. The whispering planist who will be heard over the Columbia System in the Majestic hour.

Majectic Star



ART GILLHAM

ART GILLHAM

Art Gillham, the whispering planist, whose inlimitable singing and playing will be heard as a feature of the Majestic theater of the air hour on Sunday night, May 12, at 9 o'clock, Eastern daylight saving time, over a nation-wide hookup of stations of the Columbia Broadcasting System.

Stations of the Columbia Broadcasting System that will broadcast this program are: WBAC, WOAU, WNAC, WEAN, WFBL, WMAK, WOAO, WJAS, WADO, WKRC, WGHP, WBBM, WOWO, KMOX, KMBC, KOIL, WSPD, WHK, WLBW, WMAIL, WDBJ, WTAR, WWNC, WDDD, WBRC, WREC, KLRA, KFJF, KRLD, KTSA, WSU, WCCO, WISN, KLZ, KDYL, KMTR, KYA, KEX, KJR, KGA, CFRB, WLAC.

WHISPERING PIANIST **HEADS MAJESTIC HOUR**

Art Gillham, the Whispering Pianist, will head the program that the Majestic Theatre of the Air will present over a nation-wide network of stations of the Columbia Broad-

casting System tonight at 9 o'clock.
Wendell Hall, the Red-Headed
Music-Maker and regular Master of
Ceremonies of this hour, will introduce Gillham, a fellow broadcasting

7:00 Majestic Hour-Art Gillham,
Whispering Pianist Columbia — WABC
WCAU, WNAC, WEAN, WFBL, WCAO
WJAS, WADC WKRC WGHP WBBM
WOWO KMOX, KMBC, KOIL, WSPD
WHK, WLBW, WCO WMAK WMAL
WWNC WDOD, KFJF, WISN, WREC

Whispering Pianist KYA Feature Tonight

Art Gilham, the "Whispering Pianist," a noted song writer and recording artist, will be one of the featured artists in the Majestic Theater at the air program which KYA will broadcast here beginning at 5 o'clock local time. Wendell Hall, master of ceremonies, will also present during the program to present during the program to present during the program the Wanderer's Quartet and Stanley Davis, known as the "saw virtuoso." Arnold Johnson and his orchestra and Redferne Hollinshead, the Majestto tenor, will be other features tonight.

her broadcasting studies into the hearts over of millions of radio listeners.

Miss Art Gillman's character is that of a blandering, sentimental, log fat how she longs to do assacting he is it. whe longs to do assacting he is it. I have been been a self-good and self-good assaction of the control of the control

Art explains his character by asyming that in the sarry days, when he invadent storage of all sorts, he became the same of the

themselves, they were happy:

Biographically, Art was born in
Atlanta, Georgia. He attended grade
and High School in St. Louis. From
the time in was eight he studied
piano, of first with his mother, and
after at motical conservatories. He
began his professional career as gianist with a june beard in Los Angeles. In the fall of 1922 he drifted
eastward landed in Cokicage, began
breastcarting as mismist; then one
night, on a dare, same a number—
in a whitner. Favorable response was
instantaneous. In his very first effort Art had discovered his true singing style.

He him wroth runs ones, travelled from sindon to station singing

longs to do something heroic in life. but always fails. He is a 365 pound indolent fellow, an unfortunate social outcast, a chap whose sweethearts desert him for other men-just a fellow who never gets a break. Sometime he loses weight, but later he gets it back. Once he walked across the Mohave desert on snowshoes, went down to 268 pounds, but came back up to 368 with the excellent treatment he received on the roast.

Whisper Star Sings Tonight Over WCCO

Art Gillham Will Feature Theater of Air Broadcast at 7 P. M.

cast at 7 P. M.

Art Gilham, "the whispering planist," will head the "Theater of the Air" broadcast at 7 p. m. Sunday, from WCCO.

Wendell Hall, the "Red-Headed Music-Maker" and regular master of ceremonies of this hour, will introduce Gillham, a fellow broadcasting planeer. In 1922, he began broadcasting as a planist, then one night—on a dare—he sang a number in a whisper. Favorable response was instantaneous.

From that time on he has been known as the "Whispering Planist." Besides whispering, he has written his own songs and has made many records, including "Walting for Ships That Never Come In" and "So Tired." Art Gilham's one character is a blundering, sentimental big fat boy who longs to do something heroic in life, but always fails.

As an added attraction, Wendell Hall will present the Wanderer's quartet, who will sing "I Ain't Got Nothin' to Lose" and "Rock of Ages," and Stanley Davis, who will play "Dark Eyes" as a saw solo.

Redferne Hollinshead, tenor, will contribute "The Better Land" and "Wonderful Mother of Mine" and Arnold Johnson and his orchestra will play a "mother's" medley and a southern medley.

-Majestic Theater of the Air.

Majestic Theater of the Air.

Art Gillham, the Whispering Pianist, will head the program.

Wendell Hall, the Red-Headed Music-Meer, and sear master of cremonies. The sear master of cremonies, and the sear master of cremonies. The sear master of cremonies, and sear master of cremonies, and sear master of cremonies. Art Gillbam's one character is a blundering, sentimental, big fat boy who longs to do something herocci in life, but always fails. He is a 385 pound indolent fellow, an unfortunate search of the search of

There's a Four Leaf Clover in My Pocket.
Arnold Johnson's Orchestra.
Rock of Azes—Spiritual.
Wanderer's Quartet.
Group of Sons.
Dark Eyes—Saw Virtuges Solo.
Structure of Southern Medley (introducing "Dinah"),
Arnold Johnson's Orchestra.
Harriet Lee Chorus.
Group of Songs.
Group of Songs.
Wanderers' Quartet.

o Art Gillham, Redferne ead, Wanderers' Quartet, Johnson's Orchestra. The tic Hour over KMOX Evening at 7 O'Clock.

ART GILLHAM ON THE AIR TONIGHT

"Whispering Painist" to Play Over WLAC.

Play Over WLAC.

Art Gillham, the whispering planist, will head the program that the Majestic Theater of the Air will present over a nation-wide network of stations of the Columbia Broadcasting System, Including WLAC, tonight at 7 o'clock, Wendell Hall, the Red-Headed Music-Maker and regular master of ceremonies of this hour, will introduce Gillham, a fellow broadcasting pioneer. Born in Atlanta, Georgia, he studied music from an early age, and began his professional career as planist with a laze band in Los Angeles. In the fall of 1922 he drifted eastward, landed in Chicago, began broadcasting as pianist, then one night, on a dare, sang a number—in a whisper. Favorable response was instanceous. In his very first effort Art had discovered his true singing style.

From that time on he has been known as the Whispering Planist. Besides whispering, he has written his own songs and has made many records. Twenty-four of his songs have been brought out with much success, and among his most popular records are included "Watting for Ships That Never Come In" and "So Tired."

WRITES OWN SONGS.

From that time on he has bee known as the whispering plants Besides whispering, he has writte his own songs and has made man records. Twenty-four of his son; have been brought out with muc success, and among his most popu lar records are included "Waiting fo Ships That Never Come In" and "S

MAJESTIC AIR THEATRE

Art Gillham, Whispering Pianist, Heads Programme Tonight

Art Gillham, the Whispering Pianist, ill head the programme that the Ma-stic Theatre of the Air will present ver a nation-wide network of sta-

will head the programme that the Majestic Theatre of the Air will present over a nation-wide network of stations of the Columbia Broadcasting System tonight at 9 o'clock, Eastern darlight-saving time.

Wendell Hall, the Red-Headed Music-maker and regular master of ceremonies of this hour, will introduce tillham, a fellow broadcasting pioneer.

As an added attraction for this broadcast Wendell Hall will present two surprise novelties, one the Wanderer's Quartette, who will sing among other selections. "I Ain't Got Nothin to Lose" and "Rock of Ages," and the other, Stanley Davis, saw virtuoso, who will play "Dark Eyes" as a saw solo. Redferne Hollinshead, the Majestic tenor, will contribute "The Better Land" and "Wonderful Mother of Mine," and Arnold Johnson and his orchestra will round out this programme with a "Mother's" medley and a "Southern" medley.



RADIO IS BIG HELP TO LOCAL AMATEUR TALENT

While many of its programs originate in the New York Studios of the Columbia Broadcasting System and most of the studio programs are given by professional musicians yet WLBW reserves certain portions of its schedule for the giving of programs by local amateur talent.

Oft times through their radio broad-casting, persons with considerable mu-sical talent have been discovered and

sacat talent nave been discovered and later developed into artists.

Art Gilham, the famous Whispering planist, was practically unknown un-ril he brandenst from a Chicago sta-tion in a whispering voice. This was his first step to his present fame.

Whispering Pianist.



Art Gillham, the "whitspering plan-ist," will be guest artes; of the Ma-jestic hour, breadcast by WaBC and associated stations beginning at 7 o'clock Sunday evening. Art will be atsisted by Wendell Hall, the "red-headed maste maker." Statiety Davis, saw virtuoso; Redferne Hollmohead,

Art Gillham, the whispering planist, will head the program that the Mighestic Theater of the Air will present over KYA, a nation-wide network of stations of the Columbia Broadcasting systems, the state of the Air will present over the Air will present over the Air will present over the Air will be a state of the Air

1929, May 28

Chicago: Englewood Theatre



Review in Variety June 5.

1929, May 29

Franklin, PA:

1929, June

Record released: Columbia 1873-D.

Gillham's one character is a blundering, sentimental, big fat boy who longs to do something heroic in life. but always fails. He is a 365 pound indolent fellow, an unfortunate social outcast, a chap whose sweethearts desert him for other men-just a fellow who never gets a break. Sometime he loses weight, but later he gets it back. Once he walked across the Mohave desert on snowzhoes, went down to 268 pounds, but came back up to 368 with the excellent treatment he received on the

Art Gillham, "Whispering Pianist," to Head Theater of the Air Program

Art Gillham, the "whispering pi- broadcast, Hall will present two su anist," will head the program that prise novelties, one the Wanderes the Majestic Theater of the Air will quartet, who will sing among oth

present over WBBM on Sunday selections, "I 'Ain't Got Nothin' night at 7 o'clock.

Lose," and "Rock of Ages," at Wendell Hall, the red-headed music-maker and regular master of ceremonies of this hour, will introduce Gillham, a fellow broadcasting pioneer.

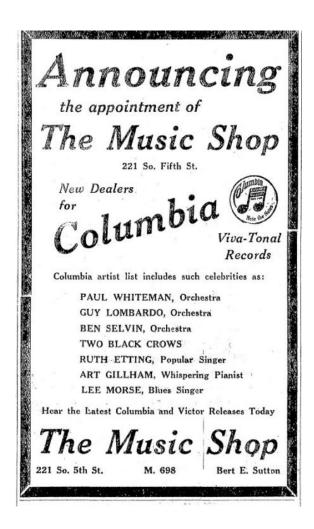
As an added attraction for this Mine,"

Art Gillham, the whispering planist, will head the program that the Majestic Theater of the Air will present over KTA, a nationwide network of stations of the Columbia Broadcasting systems this afternoon at 5 o'clock Eastern daylight saving time.

Wendell Hall, the red-headed music-maker and regular master of commonies of this bour will introduce Giltham, a fellow broadcasting ploneer. Born in Affants, Georgia, he studied music from an early age, and began his profes-

early age, and began his professional career as planist with a jazz band in Los Angeles. In the fall of 1922 he drifted eastward, landed in Chicago, began broadcasting as planist, then one night, on a dare, sang a number—in a whisper. Fav-orable response was instantaneous, In his very first effort Art had dis-covered his true singing style. From that time on he has been

known as the whispering planist. Besides whispering, he has written his own songs and has made many records. Twenty-four, of his songs have been brought out with much success, and among his most popu-lar records are included "Waiting for Ships That Never Come In" and "So Tired."



Mid-West Theatre Tour

1929, June 5

Chicago. *Variety* review of theatre performance at Englewood Theatre. "Art Gillham has been doing local radio work. Naturally his soft voiced stuff is quite audible when etherized, but in an auditorium he is hurt by it and doesn't get full returns. Limits him to duce spot in smaller houses. Songs and piano work surrounded by a theme monolog, with Gillham as a chump who gets sore at his girl because he saw her necking another He is mollified when she explains it was her uncle and goes completely sob ballad when she tells him she has just married. Having no girl on stage, Gillham uses that costless

substitute, the phone. Talk is fairly well punctuated with laugh material, but must be delivered louder. Singing and piano playing went better here because they were more distinct. Songs too soft now and then. Bing."

1929, June 10 Rhinelander, WI: Majestic Theatre

1929, July 2 Kennet, Mo: Dunklin County News, p 3:

Palace Theatre. Movie: One Woman's Idea.



ANOTHER BIG SHOW Harry Carey Other Interesting Feature an All-Talking Com The World's

Art Gillham Plays For Rotarians Today

was presided over by Charles Lemos, local Rotarian.
In addition to Mr. Gillham, FrankAnneer of Clarksville, Ark, W. T. Landrum, Jr., of Memphis, J. A. Z. Cullough of St. Louis, D. A. O'Bannion of Little Rock and O. W. McCrutcheon of this city were guest of the club.

1929, July ---

Kansas City, Mo: at Pantages Theatre. Movie

was Marked Money.

1928, July 19

Cauthersville, MO Liberty Theatre





THE ART OF ART GILLHAM

Now, as Mr. Kipling says, there is a young man named Art Gillham, who plays the piano and sings. He has the ear of people, because in five years he has played and sung out to the air from 287 radio stations, and people will not listen to what they do not like. When people want to hear him some more, and he is not on the air just then, they buy his Columbia phonograph records, and on these he croons to them of things that make them smile, or warm the heart, but mostly of these latter things, because that is what people need most.

This Mr. Gillham was born in Atlanta a proud and beautiful city far to the South, but he is not a proud man, though his success might make many men so if they had it themselves I have said that he plays the piano and sings. He says of himself that he plays tery pianle with the plays very simple melodies or at least they seem so, for not many people can do this thing, being mostly desirous to make a loud noise. They call him "The Whispering Pianist."

He sings like that, too, You can hear every word that he sings, and his voice has little unexpected tricks to the art informal and confiding, as the really Greatest Men usually are.

Fortunate indeed are those folks who can hear Art Gillham play and sings.

Columbia ad 1873-D

Art Gillham Plays For Rotarians Today

Blytheville Rotarians listened to the melodies of Art Gillham, well known Memphis entertainer and planist, who provided the feature attraction in the program of the club at its regular weekly lunchoon, today. Several numbers by the popular artist were heartily enjoyed by the club members.

U. S. Branson and J. A. Leech told the club of the recent district conference at Hot Springs which was presided over by Charles Lemons, local Rotarian.

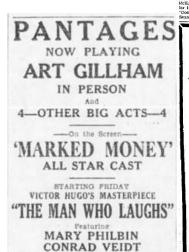
In addition to Mr. Gillham, Frank McAneer of Clarksville, Ark, W. T. Landrum, jr., of Memphis, J. A. Cullough of St. Louis, D. A. OBannion of Little Rock and O. W. McCrutcheon of this city were guests of the club. uns listened Gillham, w

GILLHAM TO APPEAR AT MEDCALF MUSIC COMPANY

Art Gillham, the "whispering pianist", who is to fill an engagement at the Liberty theater in this city next Friday evening, will appear at the Medcalf Jewelry and Music Company Friday afternoon in a series of pianologues, much in the manner of the records which he has made in the neast and of his appearances in the stage and before the microphone. The company invites the general public to come in and hear and see Mr. Gillham, there being no charge whatever for the entertainment. His records are very popular and Caruthersville people no doubt will be glad of the opportunity to hear and see him in action.

1929, July 25

Blytheville, Ark: plays at Rotary Club and Home Theatre.







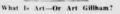


Say It With Whispers-Art Gillham Is Coming!

You've heard him, perhaps, over some one of the 287 radio stations from which he has broadcast, or on Columbia records? Art Gill-ham, The Whispering Pianist?! 376 pounds, hald-headed (So he tells you) addicted to strong coffee to keep him going, but a great artist, this Art, comes to the Tal-bot Theatre Wednesday night.

Five years ago, Gillham origin-ated, by accident, the style of songsinging he has since made famous While accompanying a radio singer on the piano, he was dared to sing a song himself into the microphone. He did so , and was at once engaged as a novelty singer on his own.

His style is the informal and con fidential style, never forcing the voice. Each word, though sung so low, is perfectly clear, and in ad-dition there are odd whimiscal tones that are inimitable, because they are the natural expression of an original and very winning personality.



Borums

Blytheville, Art

derable mystery the intriguing personality of Art Gillham. "The Whispering Pianist" exclusive Columbia record artist, coming to the Malone Theatre.

Out of the South, five years ago, to Chicago, came a young piano ac-companist, weighing 376 pounds bald-headed (if we can believe what he says about himself), and addicted to the use of strong coffee to carry him through the strain of a radio broadcast.

One day he was dared to sing ong into the microphone. He did s song into the microphone. He did so, and was at once engaged as a great singing artist, to add songs to his piano playing. Since then he has breadcast from 287 stations, and made over 50 double-disc records for

It was the informal, confidentia nature of his singing that did it, but Art Gillham claims he is still puz-

Art Gilham claims he is still puzzlesi over that.

"I eny the real singers", he says,
"and as for the piano part, I am the
world's worst piano player".

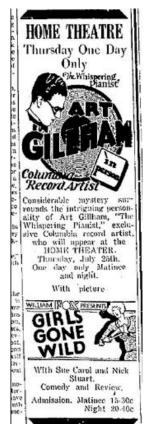
But he isn't, perhaps because he
plays just simple melodies—only not
quite as the little girl next door
plays them. All art is a mystery,
and so is Art.

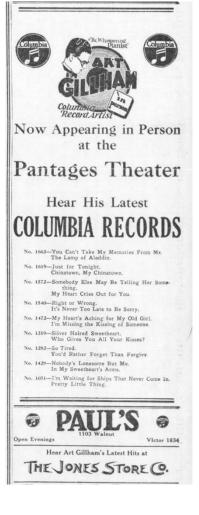


Thursday, July 25th The Whispering Pianist Record Artist

The Art of Art Gillham

b. You can hear every word to as little unexpected tricks to ant to hear, informal and cor Man usually are, those folk who can hear Art





1929 Aug

Record released: Columbia 1919-D and 1944-D.

1929, Aug 2

1929, Aug 3

1929, Aug 16

Itta Bena Dixie Theatre

On the Columbia list there are the eleven new titles. Ben Selvin and orchestra are as warm as usual in "Miss You" and "Junlor." the latter by Walter Donaldson. Dave Bernle does the "Babbling Brook" and "I Want to Meander," slow, rhythmie fox trots. The Ipana Troubadours launch and maintain fine attack on "Just a Little Glimpse of Paradise" and "There Was Nothing Else to Do. Followers of Art will caring and "Tow Made My Dreams Come True." Eord and Glenn, male vocal due, offer "Special", and "You've Made My Dreams Come True." Eord and Glenn, male vocal due, offer "Special", and "Painting the Clouds." But for modern numbers in the good old-time quartet style of sweet, close harmony.

Say It With Whispers— Art Gillham Is Coming!

Art Gillham is Coming!
You've heard him, rehups, over
some one of the 287 radio tations
from which he 287 radio tations
from which he bas breadcast, or
no Colombia records? Art Gillham, The Whispering Planist!
376 pounds, but-leaded (So the
1376 pounds, but-leaded (So
1376 pounds, but-leaded (So
1376 pounds)
Wellseate Wellnear a radio shaper
on the plane, he was dared to sing
a song himself into the nicrophone,
of as a novely singer on his own.
His style is the informal and con
deated the single of the single pounds
with perfectly clear, and in addiction there are odd whimised in
one shat are infinitable, because
an original and very winning personality.

Sikeston, MO: Malone T

Sikeston, MO:

Art Gillham, in persn ,oappeared before a large audience at the theatre Wednesday night, and entertained his hearers with several songs and original piano composition. He was booked to appear Thursday afternoon at the Rose Furniture Company at 3:00 o'clock, and at the theatre that night.

1929, August 27 Sikeston, MO



A cordial invitation is extended the many lovers of Art Gillham's work to be present at 3 o'clock Thursday at the ROSE FURNITURE CO., to hear this Columbia record artist. Mr.

Gillham will be with us in person.

Thousands of persons have heard
Mr. Gillham play the piano and sing Mr. (slinam pay the pana and said during the past five years over some 287 radio stations. The Rose Furni-ture Compnay which handles Mr. (Sillahn's voice as recorded on Co-lumbia records has the honor of presenting this artist in person to their

senting this artist in person to their Sikeston patrons.

It will be remembered that Mr. Gillham will also appear to play and sing at the Malone Theatre, August 28 and 29.

Those who avail themselves of this opportunity to hear Mr. Gillham Thursday afternoon at the Rose Furniture Company may have an op-

portunity to hear the artist sing one or more of the following Columbia record selections: "Somewhere There's Someone", "I Love You, I Love You, I Love You, Sweetheart of All My Dreams", "Some Sweet Day", "My Heart Crys Out". Just For To-My Heart Crys Out. The Miss-night", "Right Or Wrong, "I'm Miss-ing the Kissing of Someone", "You've Made My Dreams Come True" of "I'm Still Caring".

What Is Art-Or Art Gillham?

Considerable mystery the intriguing personality of Ar Gillham, "The Whispering Pianist" personality of Art exclusive Columbia record artist, coming to the Malone Theatre.

Out of the South, five years ago, to hicago, came a young piano ompanist, weighing 376 por companist, weighing 376 pounds bald-headed (if we can believe what he says about himself), and addicted to the use of strong coffee to carry him through the strain of a rad broadcast.

One day he was dared to sing ong into the microphone. He did so and was at once engaged as a great singing artist, to add songs to his piano playing. Since then he has broadcast from 287 stations, and made over 50 double-disc records for

It was the informal, confidential nature of his singing that did it, but Art Gillham claims he is still puz zled over that.

"I envy the real singers", he says.

"I enty the real singers . ne says, "and as for the piano part, I am the world's worst piano player".

But he isn't, perhaps because he plays just simple melodies—only not quite as the little girl next door near the plays is a myster. plays them. All art is a mystery, and so is Art.





THE ART OF ART GILLHAM

Now, as Mr. Kipling says, there is a young man named Art Gillham, who plays the piano and sings. He has the ear of People, because in five years he has played and sung out to the air from 287 radio stations. and People will not listen to what they do not like. When Pepole want to hear him some more, and he is not on the air just then, then buy his Columbia phonograph records, on these he croons to them of things that make them smile, or warm the heart, but mostly of these latter things, because that is what People need most.

This Mr. Gillham was born in Atlanta, a proug and beautiful city far to the South, but he is not a proud man, though his success might make many men so, if they had it themselves. I have said that he plays the piano and sings. He says of himself that he plays the piano very badly, but he is too modest, for this is not so. He plays very simple melodies, or at least they seems so, for not many people can do this thing, being mostly desirous to make a loud noise. They call him "The Whispering Pianist."

He sings like that, too. You can hear every word that he sings, and his voice has little unexpected tricks to it, but they are all very pleasant to hear, informal and confiding, as the really Greatest Men usually are.

Fortunate indeed are those folks who can hear Art Gillham play and sing at the Malone Theatre, Auguse 28 and 29.



FRIDAY MORNING, AUG. 16, 1929

ART GILLHAM COMING TO MALONE THEATRE

Back in 1922 at the Drake Hotel in Chicago, which was then station WDAP, Art Gillham started broadcasting as a pianist for singers, who sang over the station. Someone dared Gillham to sing a song and as he was a writer and had quite a few songs and accompanied himself at the piano and the instant response of the radio listeners proved to him that he had found something just a little bit different. While on his first radio tour of stations, he worked at WSB, Atlanta, Ga., and there Lambdin Kay gave him the name of the Whispering Pianist, which has be come a national known cognomen. Since that time, Gillham has worked at over 300 radio stations in the United States and Canada and his whispering style of singing is being used by artists all over the country in the radio. In 1924 Gillham went to New York and the Columbia Phonograph Company saw the possibilities of his work and signed him as an exclusive artist and since that time he has made over fifty Columbia rec ords. He tells you over the radio and on records that "he is the boy that can't win",- "the world's worst piano player"-"just a poor old man trying to get by"-and that he weighs 376 pounds, is bald-headed and always has to have his cup of offee before he can work. He keeps up this chatter while his fingers wanier over the keys of his piano and he roons his melodies in such a manner that his listeners-in front of the oud speakers and the phonographs, or his theatre audiences realizes the ntimacy of his work as he seems to calk to each one individually. Taken all in all, Art Gillham, the Whispering Pianist, is just a little bit differ-



Mr. and Mrs. Roger Jones motored to Sikeston Thursday night to hear Art Gillham at the Malone Theatre.

1929, Sept 9 Hope, Ark Talbot

Theatre

1929, Sept 11 Hope, Ark Talbot Theater

1929, Sept. 11 Talking Machine and

Radio Weekly - Art is

featured on the cover.

Say It With Whispers— Art Gillham Is Coming!

You've heard him, perhaps, over some one of the 287 radio stations from which he has broadcast, or on Columbia records? Art Gillham, The Whispering Planist?!' 376 pounds, bald-headed (So he tells you) addicted to strong coffee to keep him going, but a great artist, this Art, comes to the Talbot Theatre Wednesday night.

Five years ago, Gillham originated, by accident, the style of song-singing he has since made famous. While accompanying a radio singer on the piano, he was dared to sing a song himself into the microphone. He did so, and was at once engaged as a novelty singer on his own.

His style is the informal and con fidential style, never forcing the voice. Each word, though sung so low, is perfectly clear, and in addition there are odd whimiscul tones that are inimitable, because they are the natural expression of an original and very winning personality.

LOCAL TALENT GRACE MALONE THEATRE STAGE

Mrs. Bess Cook, musician at the Maione Theatre, arranged last Friday to have a chorus of local girls on the stage. The fourteen young ladies handled their first public appearance as a dance unit perfectly, and will appear again this Friday night. Those in the chorus are:

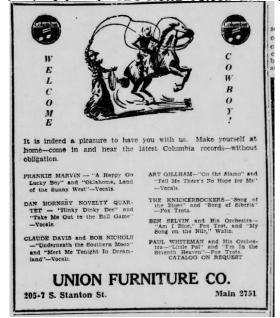
Those in the chorus are:
Virginia Mount, Virginia Pharris
Virginia McCary, Virginia Crain, Ann
Beck, Edna Pinnell, Jenalee Sells
Camille Bloomfield, Emily Blanton
Margaret Baker, Clara Trousdale,
Ella Helen Smith, Maxine Finley
and Lois Robinson.

Mrs. Cook arranged to have Miss Barbara Beck, talented daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Beck, and a very accomplished dancer, appear in connection with Clara Bow's picture and Tuesday nights.

Art Gillham, in person, appeared Art Gillham, in person, cappeared before a large audience at the theatre. Wednesday night, and entertained his hearers with several songs and original piano composition. He was booked to appear Thursday afternoon at the Rose Furniture Company at 3:00 o'clock, and at the theatre that night.



Art Gillham, the whispering planist, is back again too, this time singing "On the Alamo" and "Tell Me There's Hope for Me." I guess there is, Art, if this one sells the way your last one did.



1929, Sept 26 Columbia ad 1940-D

1929, Sept 29 Cleveland:

Art Gillham, the whispering planist, is back again too, this time singing "On the Alamo" and "Tell Me There's Hope for Me." I guess there is, Art, if this one sells the way your last one did.

Stock Market Crashes

1929, Oct. 29 Stock market crash - Art lost \$50,000. As a result of the

crash. In the depression, record sales were hit hard.

Sales in 1930 were not half of what they had been

in 1929. Sales in 1931 were about of quarter of 1929's,

and 1932 was the worst year of the recording industry's

history.

1929, Nov 1 Columbia list

1929, Nov. 9 *Phonograph and Talking Machine Weekly* – Art is featured

on the cover

1929, Nov 13 University, MS

UNIVERSITY, Miss. — Art Gillham, famous singer and "whispering pianist" who records exclusively for the Columbia Record Company, will present a program in Fulton Chapel on Wednesday evening.

He will appear at the University under the sole auspices of the Ole Miss Band.

1929, Nov 16 ad





1929, Nov. 25 New York: recorded 4 titles for Columbia accompanied by Red Nichols, cornet, Andy Sannella, guitar, Jimmy Dorsey,

alto sax, Ben Selvin, violin, second violin, Harry Barth, bass, Rube Bloom, piano:

149485-1 Absence Makes The Heart Grow Fonder

149485-3 Absence Makes The Heart Grow Fonder

(Young - Warren)

Col 2119-D



(from *The Vagabond Lover*)

(Clifford Gray - Nat D. Ayer)

Col 2051-D

149487-2 *Hollywood*

149487-3 *Hollywood*

(Newman - Johnson)

Col 2051-D

149492-1 *Have A Little Faith In Me* (3 takes)

149492-2 Have A Little Faith In Me

(From *Spring Is Here*)

(Lewis - Young - Warren)

Col 2119-D

New York, recorded 3 titles for Columbia probably

accompanied by Red Nichols, cornet, Andy

Sannella or Jimmy Dorsey, clarinet, Ben Selvin, violin, Rube Bloom, piano:

149640-1-2-3 If I Had To Do Without You

(Pitman)

Not issued (resumed on December 11,

1929)

149641-1-2-3 (You'll Always Be) Welcome

(Andy Razaf - Paul Denniker)

Not issued

(Columbia file card note: "replaced by

150865 at no cost.")





1929, Nov. 26

149642-1-2-3-4-5-6 Would You Care?

(Harris)

Not issued

(Columbia file card shows no dates of recording or disposition, however takes 4-6 are shown as February 12, 1930 in Brian Rust's *Complete Entertainment Discography*)

1929, Nov. 27 New York, recorded 3 titles for Columbia first 2 titles have violin, train effects and bells:

149648-1 *Just Forget*

149648-3 *Just Forget*

(Tebben - Billy Smythe- Art Gillham)

Col 2245-D

Vocalion 3028

149649-1-2-3 *Tonight*

(Billy Smythe - Art

Not issued (resumed

December 11, 1929)

149650-1-2-3 You Don't Care

(Coots - Art Gillham)

Not issued (resumed

December 9, 1929)

1929, Dec. 1 Columbia Records store display sheet

features his picture.

1929, Dec 8

NEW COLUMBIA DISCS

Vocal and Instrumental Offerin

extra-singable. Art Gillham is jazzier than usual in "Blue Little You and Blue Little Me," but romanti agairr in "If You Know What: Know," James Melton makes everpoint count in "I'm Only Makin Believe" and "Wanting You" (from "Song of Love")

Oscar Grogan runs strong wit the outstanding hit, "I Came to You" (from motion picture "Skd Deep") and "I Sing All My Lou Scarce to You"

Columbia's new dance offerings, all fox trots, are blue-ribbon. There's Guy Lombardo and His Royal Canadians, in "My Fate Is In Your Hands" and "A Little Kiss Each Morning" (from "The Vagabond Lover"). Ben Selvin and his orchestra do a novelty. The Woman in the Shoe," and one with purple and plum color, "Only Love Is Real." The Knickerbockers are Columbia's dance representatives for "Painting the Clouds With Sunshing."

1929, Dec. 9 New York: recorded 1 title for Columbia:

149650-4-5-6 You Don't Care

(Coots - Art Gillham)

Not issued (resumed

December 14, 1929)

1929, Dec 9 Columbia ad 2016-D

1929, Dec. 11 New York, recorded 2 titles for Columbia accompanied by violin and piano:

149640-4 If I Had To Do Without

149640-6 If I Had To Do Without

You

(Pitman)

Col 2189-D (resumed from

November 26, 1929)

149649-5 *Tonight*

(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)

Col 2245-D

Vocalion 3028

1929, Dec 12 Indianapolis WJAS

Best Features Tonight

8:00-Jessica Dragonette.

9:00-Jones and Hare, KDKA.

mos. WCAE, WJAS. True Story.

10:00—Quakers, KDKA. Crime Prevention, WCAE. Radio Follies, WJAS.

10:30—Under the Jolly Roger, Theater of the Air, WCAE.

-Stribling-Griffiths fight, from 11:00-

11:30-Art Gillham, WJAS.

1929, Dec. 14 New York, recorded 1 title for Columbia:

149650-7 You Don't Care

149650-8 You Don't Care

(Coots - Art Gillham)

Col 2189-D (resumed from

December 9, 1929)

1929, Dec 15 Columbia ad 2016-D

1929, Dec 18 Columbia sheet listing





1930

With the Depression in full swing the entertainment industry is hurting. Record sales are dropping, but Art Gillham continues to rank high in recording popularity. As recordings and stage shows are declining, Art continues active in radio. He has several programs on CBS.

1930	Columbia publicity calendar features an artist for each month. Art is February. Calendar in his scrapbook is stamped Household Furniture Co.
1930	Sheet Music: <i>Just Forget</i> (see 1921) assigned to DeSylva, Brown & Henderson Music.
1930	Memphis, 1930 US Census living with wife and 2 sons, shows born in Missouri, occupation shown as recording artist.
1930, Jan 1	Columbia List shows release of Columbia 2016-D.
1930, Feb	Columbia Records wall calendar has drawing of Art Gillham for February.



1930, Feb 1 Columbia List shows release of Columbia 2051-D. ed by Freddle Rich are to have a weekly radio roundup on WABC and chain starting the night of

Screen, stage and radio performers and a 40-piece orchestra directed by Freddie Rich are to have a weekly radio roundup on WABC and chain starting the night of February 5. The idea is to bring before the microphone outstanding stars from the three fields of entertainment, the first program to include Lee Morse, blues singer; Art Gillham, planist, the Jolly Jugglers, comedy duo; Ruth Glenn and Katherine Kent, harmony singers, and Theo Karl, tenor.



1930, Feb 5

New York: WABC

1930, about

undated promotional flyer of William Morris Agency for Art Gillham

1930, Feb. 12

New York, may have recorded 1 title for Columbia:

149642-4-5-6 *Would You Care*

(Harris)

Not issued (see note on November 26, 1929)

1930 March 16

Columbia Records

Columbia Records

Ted Lewis's newest Columbia records are fox trots, "San" and "Aunt Hagar's Blues." Guy Lombardo's new fox trots are "Where the Golden Daffodils Grow" and "Just Can't Be Bothered With Me." Ben Selvin presents "Happy Days Are Here Again" and "The One Girl." Merle Johnston and His Ceco Couriers of fer "Watching My Dreams Go By" and "Sweet Nothings of Love." Art Gillham does "Have a Little Faith in Me" and "Absence Makes the Heart Grow Fonder for Somebody Else." The Rondollers, male quartet, are heard in "Happy Days Are Here Again," coupled with Oscar Grogan, tenor, in "Falling in Love With You."

1930, Mar.23

Memphis: Lions Club member. Art's address is given as 1640 East Moreland.



1930 March 29

St I ouis St I ouis Star article on Irene Beasley:

adio Favorite

en and women stars of radio preference and whose life tail, as written by Harry T. oon and mail it to the Radio

that my song, 'If I Could Just Stop Dreaming, had been purchased by them and that I would receive roy-

"About this time one of the men in Houck's Music Shop in Memphis told Art Gillham, the whispering planist, who was a regular on the staff of Station WMC in Memphis. that I had written some little negro songs that he might be able to use and Gillham asked are tracers and and Gillham asked me to come and see him and talk over my songs. After we talked a few minutes he asked::

"'You sing, don't you?"
"'No,' I answered truthfully.
"'You can carry a tune, can't

you?

'In a basket,' I replied.

"'In a basket,' I replied.
"'You're foolish to try to get other
people to plug your songs,' he said.
'Sing them yourself. WMC would
be glad to have you do it.'
"'I'd die of fright,' I told him.
"He replied. 'That's all hokum.
Get up there at the mike. Sing and

make 'em like it.'
"I've never forgotten that line, 'sing and make 'em like it.'"

HAT Gillham said gave me a W HAT Gillham said gave me a little confidence and I thought maybe I might try singing. A few seconds later, however, the old inferiority complex was whispering 'You can't do it, you can't. You wouldn't have the courage even if you could.' "But one night soon after, I went to the broadcasting station with a

"But one night soon after, I went to the broadcasting station with a friend and played the piano as her accompanist. The sight of the 'mike' petrified me and it does to this day but I continued going to the studio as an accompanist and then one night I turned to the announcer and said. Tim going to sing into that thing."

days later I received my first fan letter.
"Early in March WMC was in a

bad way for talent and I was asked to give a fifteen-minute recital, which I did.
"I received another fan letter but

decided not to sing again over the radio. I continued to teach and tried my hand at composing After school closed, I took my songs to St. Louis to sell them to Dixon-Lanc.

"Walter Simon of the Dixon-Lane Company, after listening to me croon some of my own songs, in-troduced me to Miss Helen Hat-field, announcer for the old Grand-Leader radio casting station I sang my songs and The St. Louis Star published a nice story about me. Fans wrote letters and my head began to swell.

"I didn't sell any of my songs but I got letters of introduction to Chicago song publishers and spent a week in that city broadcasting. Then I returned to Memphis with my unsold songs and a guitar, which I never learned to play, and prompt-ly fell in love.

N THE fall of 1925 I returned to that thing.'

"He told me to go ahead and I sang a chorus from 'Driftwood.' Two and then dropped radio work and all

THE ST. LOUIS STAR

SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 25, 1930.

THE ST. LOUIS STAR

frene Beasley, Noted Blues Singer, Would Rather Be Back Teaching School

Fainted at First Recital

Long, Tall Gal From Dixie' Once Shouted a Mammy Song Into a 'Mike' and Now Is Success Despite Her Inferiority Complex Blames It All on

Name Your Radio Favorite

So Minks Brigh in Mangaphi.

Collinant, the simple recommendation of the stake of t

1930, Apr. 1 Columbia list show release of Columbia 2119-D

1930, April 2 Census shows him living in Memphis with wife, 2 sons and a servant in the His occupation is given as "recording artist". His home at 1640 Eastmoreland is shown valued at \$3800.00. He also gave his place of birth as Missouri.

New York Daily News Columbia Records ad features Art Gillham's Co-1930, Apr. 5

lumbia 1726-D.



5.15 P. M. (PBC) Weather report. 5.15 P. M. (CBS) Semi-Classical. 5.45 P. M. (PBC) Art Gillham.

1930, April 19 Columbia Records Supplement lists 2119-D

New York PBC

1930, April 24 Greenwood MS Peace Officers Convention. Art had a

Deep interest in law enforcement, contributed to law

enforcement groups and was a honorary Texas

Ranger.

1930, June Record release: Columbia 2189-D.

1930, June 15 Columbia List.

1930, April 15

1930, June 26 St Louis: Art returns to St Louis due to his

mother's health. The broadcast of

Syncopated Pessimism is transferred from

New York to St Louis' WIL.

1930, July 1 Columbia List.

Art Gillham Here For Convention

Art Gillham, internationally known writer of songs and one of the most nonular radio artists as the "Whispering Piantist," is one of the notables at the convention of the Peace Officers Association here.

Art has its returned from New York to his home in Membis. He has retired from the radio field, and is continuing making his famous records for the Columbia Phonograph Company with whom he is still under a three year contract.

One of the features of the convention programs has been Gillham's appearances with his own selection. He is an honorary member of the Association.

Mr. Gillham is pleasantly remembered in Greenwood, heving appeared here about two years ago.





1930 Census

Line No.	Street	Nouse No	Family N	Name	Relation	Home Ov	Radio	Farm	Race Marital S	Attended	Birthplace		Mother Lan Birthplace	=	Speaks E	Occupation	Industry	D	Employe	Unemplo	War	Farm Sch
38 11 12	1	1 074	n 14	Sille and	ac In	0 85	00 8	7	W 10 B W 39 M	28/4	A Termina	diotta d	Letter de Juliania	81 91 0 64	Mys.	none none	mosis	827/1	9 40			10 11 12
14 15	111			- J.	. //			7 74	W 27 7 W 9 J	17 1/2 /	andrain Indiana	Missouri Missouri Missouri	Indiana Programa	60	9.	North North	Britis	650	A Tax			113 14 15



1930, July 1 Memphis: his residence, announces he will establish 8 music schools in the south, the Art Gillham School of Music



No other information is found and presumed to be a casualty of the Depression.

1930, July 24

New York: recorded 4 titles for Columbia accompanied by Mannie Klein, trumpet, Benny Goodman on clarinet, Ben Selvin, violin, Eddie Lang, guitar, Rube Bloom, piano, bells and whistles. Benny Goodman identified himself on these recordings.

150661-1 *Good Evenin* '(3 takes)

150661-2 *Good Evenin*'

(Seymour - O'Flynn - Hoffman)

Col 2291-D

150662-1 Confessin' (That I Love You)

150662-3 Confessin' (That I Love You)

(Neiburg - Daugherty - Reynolds)

Col 2265-D

Sunbeam CD Benny Goodman On The Side

An interesting note: the next two masters (150663 and 150664) are of the same songs by Guy Lombardo and an unidentified vocalist.

1930, July 30

New York: recorded 2 titles for Columbia with same accompaniment as on July 24, 1930. (Lord's discography incorrectly has Alex Hill on piano.) He previously recorded *I'm Drifting Back To Dreamland* on October 19, 1926 as a piano solo:

150665-1 My Heart belongs To The Girl Who Belongs To Some body Else (3 takes)

150665-2 My Heart belongs To The Girl Who Belongs To Somebody
Else

(Al Sherman - Al Lewis)

Col 2265-D

Sunbeam LP SB107

150666-2 I'm Drifting Back To Dreamland

150666-3 I'm Drifting Back To Dreamland

(Charlesworth - Harrison - Sadler)

(A Ted Browne song)

Col 2291-D

1930, Aug Records released: 2245-D and 2265-D.

1930, Aug. 5 New York: *Daily Mirror*, p 10, notes Art has just returned from a successful tour and will be heard on local radio featuring *Drifting On To Avalon* and *I*

Don't Mind Walking In The Rain.







CBS (KMOX)—5, Mildred Bailey; 5:15, Buck Rogers; 5:30, Devil Bird, 5:45, organ program; 6, voice of experience; 6:15, Boswell sisters; 6:30 Kate Smith; 6:45, hot from Hoilywood; 7, pianistic harmonies; 7:15, Manhattan serenaders; 7:30, Guy Lombardo's orchestra; 8, Fred Waring's Pennsylvanians; 8:30, Aid adventures of Jimmy Allen; 8:45, Light opera gems; 9:15, shades of yesterday; 9:30, whispering pianist; 9:45 rolling stones; 10, Duchin's orchestra; 10:15, sports reported; 10:30, Rittich's orchestra; 10:45, Nelson's orchestra; 11, Lankford's orchestra; 11:30, piano moods; 11:45, Milton Slosser at organ; 12:15, Littich's orchestra.

1930, Aug 17

Columbia ad 2245-D

LATE RELEASES

COLUMBIA RECORDS

2245-D-"Just Forget."
"To-Night."

Art Gillham (The Whispering Pianist.)

2246-D-"The World Is Waiting for the Sunrise."
"Three O'Clock in the Morning."
Ted Lewis and His Band.

2243-D-"If I could Be with You."
"Shout, Sister, Shout."
Lazy Levec Loungers.

2235-D-"Sing."

"Singing a Song to the Stars."
Ukelele Ike (Cliff Edwards).

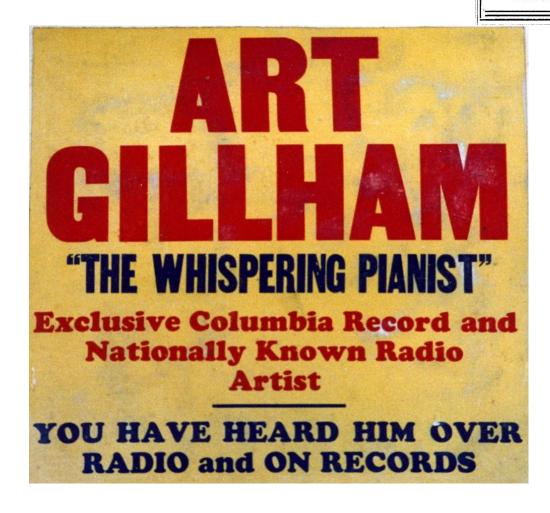
2229-D-"When the Day's Works All Been Done."
"Steam Boat Bill."
Paul Tremaine and His Orchestra.

15575-D-"There's a Mother Old and Gray."
"When the Bees Are in the Hive." .
Mr. and Mrs. Pugh Cross.

MEIER MUSIC CO.

1008 Broadway Phone 1426





New York: *Daily Mirror*, p22. Columnist Nick Kenny "Getting An Earful" reports Art is on WMCA:



1930, Aug. 30 New York: Daily Mirror, p 22: Radio Program recommends "Art Gillham-Lotus

DANCE RECORDS

VOCAL RECORDS

Land" on WMCA on Sunday at 9:30 pm.



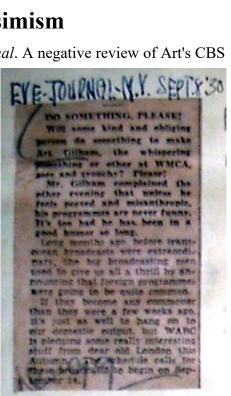
1930, Sept Columbia List New York WMCA

570k—WMCA—526m
10:00—Art Gillham, whispering pianist.
10:15—Sports revue.
10:20—Reverting to type.
10:30—"Along a Gypsy Trail."
11:05—Florence Richardson's orch.
11:35—A. C. O. Negro orchestra.
12:05 p. m.—Abbey Club orchestra.

CBS: **Syncopated Pessimism**

1930, Sept. 8 New York: WMCA 10:00 - Evening Journal. A negative review of Art's CBS

program Syncopated Pessimism - not funny.



PAUL WHITEMAN

"New Tiger Rag" ... "Nola

JACRED RECORD

DANCE RECORDS

VOCAL RECORDS

1930, Sept 3-24

1930, Sept 10 New York: WMCA 10:00 pm

1930, Sept 14 Record review:

The Columbia Records. Will Osborne's Orchestra seems to head the list this week with a per-fectly swell record of "So Beats My Heart for You" and "When I Close My Eyes and Dream," which is highly recommended for the customers, young and old. How'd you like a nice pair of torch songs, by that master of sob stuff, Art Gillham? All right. Here's "Con-fessin" and "My Heart Belongs to the Girl Who Belongs to Somebody Else." He'll break your heart. And because a Paul Whiteman record is always news, you'd better try "Song of the Congo" and "The Wedding of the Birds," which might be classed as an entertaining novelty. the State State William & State L.

1930, Sept

1930, Oct. 4 New York: Sun, .Radio Section. Syncopated Pessimism.

1930, Oct. 7 New York, records 2 titles for Columbia accompanied by Alex Hill. Art Gillham does not play piano on these recordings:

150865-1 Passing Time With Me (3 takes)

150865-2 Passing Time With Me

(Alex Hill)

Col 2331-D

150866-1 When They Changed My Name To A Number

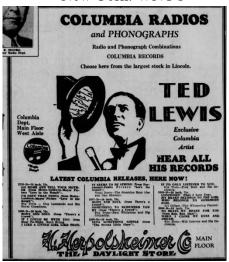
150866-3 When They Changed My Name To A Number

(Carter - Gordon - Osborne)

Col 2331-D

1930, Oct 8

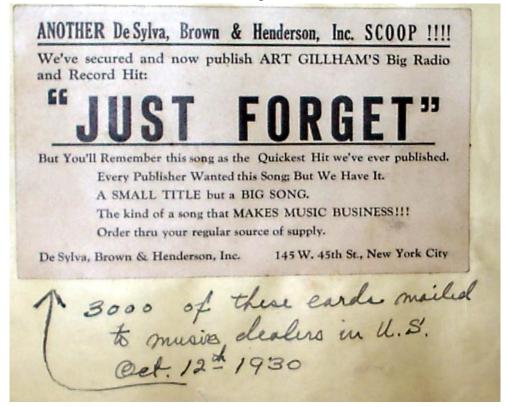
New York: WNYC



526 M—WNYC—570 Kc 5:30—Berensom's Entertainers. 10:00—Art Gillham, Piano 10:15—Norwood Sport Revue 10:20—Reverting to Type—Rian James 10:30—In a French Garden 11:00—News Summary 11:05—Schmid's Brau Haus 11:35—A. C. O. Negro Orchestra 12:35 A. M.—Argonaut Orchestra 1:05 A.M.—Club Plaza Orchestra

1930, Oct 12

New York: Promotion for Just Forget:



And Art Gillham will break your heart with his sweet rendition of "Good Evenin" and "I'm Drifting Back to Dreamland."

1930, Oct 15 Columbia List 1930, Oct 15 New York WMCA NEW YORK
526 M-WNYC-570 Kc
5:30-Berensom's Entertainers.
10:00-Art Gillham, Plano
10:15-Norwood Sport Revue
10:20-Reverting to Type-Rian
James
10:30-In a French Garden
11:00-News Summary 10:30—In a French Garden
11:00—News Summary
11:05—Schmid's Brau Haus
11:35—A. C. O. Negro Orchestra
12:35 A. M.—Argonaut Orchestra
1:05 A. M.—Club Plaza Orchestra
800 M—WGRE A00 KG

1930, Oct 24 Columbia ad 2265-D Record review: 1930, Oct 26 Pittsburgh: KQV 1930, Oct 28 1930, Nov 1 Columbia List 1930, Nov 1

New York WMCA

1930 Record released: Columbia 2291-D.

1930, Nov. 6 New York, recorded 2 titles for Columbia:

> 150939-2 Gazing At The Stars 150939-3 Gazing At The Stars

> > (Crawford - Fairman)

Art Gillham, one of America's best known radio stars, is coming to KQV, in person, for a series of presentations.

Art Gillham Here for Programme Tonight

When Art Gillham sings sentimental ballads the result is Art—in both senses of the word. This popular singer, fameus throughout the country for his numerous radio appeances as "The Whispering pianist, will present fifteen minutes of his inimitable songs at 7:45 o'clock.

Well, if Art Gillham gets any fun out of feeling bad, we hope he gets-that cup of coffee and that it tastes terrible, so he'll get it over with and smile.

We like Art's style too well to accept last night's offering. Art didn't even get warmed up until he was ready to sign off. And he sang like he had a fight with his dearest lady. But you know Art hates sunshine, flowers and nice weather. He's a

Col 2349-D

150940-2 To Whom It May Concern

150940-3 To Whom It May Concern

(Gottler - Mitchell - Myer) Col 2349-D

Art Gillham, whispering pianist, writes us that he will be heard over WJAS Dec. 8 to 14 and over no other local station.

1930, Nov 9-20

Louisville WHAS

Art Gillham to Appear.

Art Gillham, who has been entertaining WHAS listeners for the past week, is booked for another of his novel and enjoyable sessions of songs at 5 o'clock. Mr. Gillham is famed for his radio and recording.

12:44 P.M.—Weather, Louisville Title Co.
12:45 P.M.—Dixle Hawalians. Talk.
13:10 P.M.—Harry E. Dodge Title Trenchestra.
13:10 P.M.—News of The Times.
14:10 P.M.—Wally Crape. Plannlocist.
14:10 P.M.—Wally Crape. Plannlocist.
14:10 P.M.—Society Serenaders.
15:10 P.M.—The Jameser.
16:11 P.M.—Bressof R.M.—Wisperins.
16:12 P.M.—Bressof R.M.—Wisperins.
16:12 P.M.—Bressof R.M.—Piressof R.M.—Single P.M.—Bressof R.M.—Piressof R Panisi.

130 P.M. – Fierrord. Storage Daylor.

130 P.M. – Herrord. Storage Daylor.

140 P.M. – Jack Turner.

150 P.M. – Football Scores.

151 P.M. – Football Scores.

152 P.M. – Berlin Orchestra.

153 P.M. – Herrord. Programme.

153 P.M. – Greater Louiville Ensemble.

155 P.M. – Greater Louiville Ensemble.

* * * Art Gillham Booked.

At 6:30 o'clock, Art Gillham will present one of his inimitable quarter hour-groups of the songs which have made him so well known over the air and on recordings.

1930, Nov 24

Indianapolis WFMB

1930, Dec 4-5

1

Columbus: WCAH

1930, DEC 8-14

Pittsburgh WJAS

W.H.A.S

FEATURES FOR TODAY

Princeton Football classic ught to WHAS listeners at the studies of WHAS compared to the facilities from through the facilities ional Broadcasting Com-

Yale-Princeton Game On the Air At 12:45

Jack Turner On Two

'Whispering Pianist'

Programmes Tonight

Billed At 5:15 O'clock & C

quarter-hour of his inimitable songs at 5:18 o'clock. Mr. Gillham, who is a heard on many stations in addition to his recordings, is making a short stay at the studies of WHAS.

Begin Radio Tour

Art Gillham, the whispering planist, who is one of radio's "oldest soldiers," will open a series of broadcasts from WFBM at 19 o'clock tonight. Gillham's famous style is informal and condidential; each word, though sung slowly and qufetly, isclear. Bekides being a radio entertainer Mr. Gillham also is a widely known recording artist. During his stay in Indianapolis he will

Best Radio Tonight

1:00—Brevities, WJAS.
8:00—Irene Bordini, Rudy Vallce,
WCAE, Bern Dance, KDKA

5:15—Cil Romance, WJAS.
9:30—Williard Rohinson's Orchestra.
James Melten, KDKA.
10:00—B. A. Rolle's Orchestra, WCAU
10:15—Herbert Opera Series, KDKA
11:00—Art Gillbam, WJAS.

WCAH-Columbus-5, Art Graham, novel pianist; 5:46, Rusty Parkers State Restaurant Orchestraffi 6, Art Gillham, whispering pianist; 6:31, Gilberts Novelty Four; 7:01, Dick Fidler's Neil House Orchestra; Bill Bailey's Terrace Garden Orchestra; 8, Singing Coppers; 8:15, To be Announced; 8:30, Buss Connell, pianist; 8:45, Tom Collins Mixing Bowl, by Wayne and Anne.

Atlanta, will make his second ap-pearance over WJAS tonight at 11 o'clock. He will be on the air at 11:30 Thursday and Friday nights.

Irene Beasley and Art Gilham sent us autographed copies of their favor-ite songs, last week.

Art Gillham, whispering pianist of

The funniest thing we heard last The funnisst tining we neard last night, Art Gillham said he wrote on a napkin, "Don't drink this coffee, I put my finger in it." When he returned from the doughnut counter to his arm chair. the coffee was gone and a posteript on the napkin said. "I drank the coffee, but I didn't find your finger."

Here's Art



Art Gillham, famed as a whisart Gillnam, famed as a whis-pering radio singer, is in town. He will be heard over WJAS, at 11 tonight, and at the same hour Tuesday and Wednesday. Thursday and Friday he will sing at 11:30.

1930, Dec 14 Record Review:

Here's the funniest thing we've Here's the funniest thing we've ever heard: Someone said Art Gillham is "too sad." Being "too sad" has made millions laugh for three years, made Art Gillham's name a byword in the radio world and emblazoned it in the honor roll of less than a dozen truly greats, who climbed to the top in one-man presentations, and stayed there. It has sold carloads of records, sheet music and player rolls.

Everything may look terrible to Art, but it's all right with us, as long as he continue his syncopated pessimism and doesn't get so far away we can't bring him in with the old set.

Columbia Features.

Guy Lombardo's latest record, which will undoubtedly turn out to be a best seller, is "You're Driving Me Crazy"—you'll love it—and "You're Always Sure of My Love for You," one of the better of the new love songs.

love songs.

Here's some more heat for you, too. Fletcher Henderson's band does a grand job playing "Chinatown, My Chinatown" and "Somebody Loves Me," if you're sentimental enough to love these songs for old times' sake.

Art Gilham who whispers over his melancholy piano playing, breaks your heart this time with "You Were Only Passing Time With Me" and another convict song, this one called, pathetically enough, "When They Changed My Name to a Number."

THE MICROPHONE BROADCAST GOSSIP .- PROGRAMS

MODERN Thankscivine day frama, filled with mystery and thrills, will be presented by the Empfre Builders during their broadcast at \$5.20 o'clock tonight between the WIZ network. The story tells of exciting events on an express train, centering around a precious jewel in the possession of one of the passengers.

Art Gillham, the whispering planist, who is one of radio's "oldest soldiers," will open a series of broadcasts from WFEM at 1.0 o'clock tonight, Gillham's famous style is informal and confidential; ach word, thoirs hang slowly and qufetty, is clear. Beides being a radio entertainer Mr, Gillham also is a widely known recording artist, During his stay in Indianapolis he will be heard from WFEM each wight.

Art Gillham promi

Art Gillham promises to account for every cup of coffee he has had in Pittsburgh during an entire week. He will say good-bye to his friends at 11:30 over WJAS. Art goes to Cincinnati for a week.

Dec 21

Cincinnati They Ch

Irene Beasley and Art Gilham sent us autographed copies of their favorite songs, last week.

> Art Gillham, whispering planist, writes us that he will be heard over WJAS Dec. 8 to 14 and over no other local station.

12-8-1930

Pittsburgh WJAS

What a good-natured prevaricator Art Gillham is. He said he didn't feel any better last night, then sang "Bye Bye Blues."

If you didn't hear Art it's your own fault, so we picked this out of the air for you: "I asked my girl to marry me, and right away she turned me down and said my face would scare our kids to death. Then she asked me how much I'd charge to haunt a house." Then Art went out to get his cup of coffee. Art is on WJAS at 1:15 afternoons and 11 nights the rest of the week.

We like Art's style too well to accept last night's offering. Art didn't even get warmed up until he was ready to sign off. And he sang like he had a fight with his dearest lady. But you know Art hates sunshine, flowers and nice weather. He's a guy who revels in rain, snow and murders. O. K. Art, we're even, now go to it and make 'em laugh. "You haven't got a cup of coffee in your pocket have you?"

Well, if Art Gillham gets any fun out of feeling bad, we hope he gets that cup of coffee and that it tastes terrible, so he'll get it over with

and smile.

12-9-1930 12-10-1930

The funniest thing we heard last night, Art Gillham said he wrote on a napkin, "Don't drink this coffee, I put my finger in it." When he returned from the doughnut counter to his arm chair, the coffee was gone and a postscript on the napkin said, "I drank the coffee, but I didn't find your finger."

Art Gillham, "Whispering Pianist," who became a popular broadcaster through his connection with the Columbia network staff, was a visitor at Station WKRC last week. He played and sang several times each day for the WKRC audlence. Gillham has been on a two-month trip through the South and Middle West and returns to New York this week. He became known to radio listeners through his broadcasts in the Majestic and other network programs. He tic and other network programs. He also has made a large number of records, which have had a wide acclaim.

12-12-1930

1930, Dec 18 Cincinnati: WKRC 4:15 pm



1930, Dec. 31

Variety, p 40, shows him in "Disc Leaders of 1930" as Columbia's number 2 male artist (Cliff Edwards was number 1) Gene Austin shown as Victor's number 2 male artist. The top six male recording artists of 1930 were Al Jolson, Maurice Chevalier, Cliff Edwards, Gene Austin, Art Gillham and Harry Richman.







A word about ART GILLHAM:

EXCLUSIVE COLUMBIA RECORDING ARTIST

(One of the featured Artists for past six years)

Has Recorded for Duo-Art and Vocalstyle Player Rolls

NATIONALLY KNOWN RADIO ARTIST

Having broadcast at over three bundred radio stations in the United States and Canada in the past seven years

Originator of the "Whispering" type of broadcasting and recording in 1922 from Chicago.

A SONG WRITER OF NOTE

He has written thirty songs (published by recognized publishers) in past seven years

Has headlined in Keith and Publix Houses and over Pantages and Loew Circuits (played Locu time twice)

What they say about ART GILLHAM:-

NEW YORK MIRROR

NEW YORK TRIBUNE:

"He is a vandeville type of De Pachman who ralks and sings to his dingers."

#ROOKLYN EAGLE:
This performer afters his waters in a modest uff-ha of way."

ATM YORK WORLD

The way he handles a piano makes you want to get up and step a bit."

NEW YORK GRAPHIC:

BALTIMORE AMERICAN Gillham is that he never

H INHINGTON POST

A popular record and radio star well received."

BOSTON POST:

ATLINT I JOURNAL

"Employing a unique radio technique, one of the deverest of pioneer radio stars."

PITTSBURGH PRESS:
"This agries is a vehill show in himself."

CLEFELAND PLAIN-DEALER:

DETROIT NEWS.

"An entertainer of first magnitude trained and theroughly capable."

CINCINNATI ENQUIRER "His crooning into the 'mike' has been pro-nounced an example for radio artists to follow."

MEMPHIS COMMERCIAL APPLAL:

"His cryle is his own and his popularity as wide as the best."

INDIAN IPOLIS TIMES

NEW ORLEANS ITEM

CHICAGO HER HAD EXAMINER

ST LOUIS STAR.

KANSAS CITY STAR.

DALLAS NEWS.

"A composer and performed light to all mopile lovers."

HOUSTON JOURN IL

"He has plenty at adm

SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS:

OMAIL! BEE:

DENFER POST "Gillham is making the other hum with his good melodies."

SELITTLE POST INTELLIGENCES.

"A clever performer who has delighted be mestern listeners many times."

SIN TRINCISCO CHRONICIA "He is fam as for his clever vamp while playing jazzy, enappy melodies."

LOS INCELES EXAMINER:

"Has made a

Active ular to Adv. Accounts



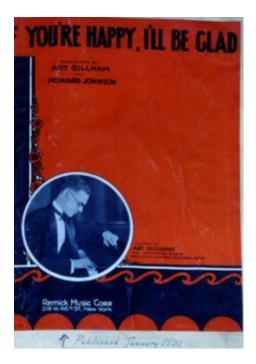


1931

Just A Minute More To Say Goodbye

1931 was the end of Art's successful recording career at Columbia. The depression took a great effect on commercial recording. Sales plummeted. Unfortunately the depression had some of Art's best recordings: Shine On Harvest Moon was praised by Walter Winchell. Also depression era recordings were Shine On Harvest Moon, and his own Just Forget. His theatre appearances declined. His radio travels continued and he had several programs on CBS: morning Breakfast With Art and evening Syncopated Pessimism that kept him in New York. In the summer his mother had a medical problem that forced him to resign from CBS and return to St. Louis. He went to WIL with his Syncopated Pessimism program. There are some indications the program continued nationally on CBS from St. Louis. His wife filed for divorce a second time.

1931, Jan Music published



Record released: Columbia 2331-D 1931, Jan

1931, Jan. Columbia Records Supplement lists 2349-D

1931, Jan. 5 New York, recorded 2 titles accompanied by clarinet, alto sax, and piano and was

joined by The Rondoliers Quartet on one title:

151144-3 **Shine On Harvest Moon** (Rondoliers)

(Jack Norworth - Nora Bayes)

Col 2374-D

Vocalion 3027

15145-2 *If You're Happy I'll Be Glad* (3 takes)

(Howard Johnson - Art Gillham)



Col 2374-D

Vocalion 3027

1931, Jan 15
Columbia list.

1931, Feb
Record released: Columbia 2349-D

1931, Feb
Record released: Columbia 2349-D

1931, Feb 1
Columbia list.

1931, Feb 2
New York: Columbia Records radio

1931, Feb. 4
New York, recorded 2 titles for Columbia:

Screen, stage and radio performers and a 40-piece orchestra directed by Freddie Rich are to have a weekly radio roundup on WABC and chain starting the night of February 5. The idea is to bring before the microphone outstanding stars from the three fields of entertainment, the first program to include Lee Morse, blues singer; Art Gillham, pianist, the Jolly Jugglers, comedy duo; Ruth Glenn and Katherine Kent, harmony singers, and Theo Karl, tenor.

151272-2 Something Reminds Me Of You

151272-3 Something Reminds Me Of You

(Billy Smythe - Art Gillham)

Col 2451-D

151273-3 If You Haven't Got A Girl

(Davis - Hoffman - Vallee)

Col 2451-D



1931, Feb 2

wednesday mgnt.

Pittsburgh:

Art Gillham, "the whispering planist," has been engaged for several weekly broadcasts over the CBS chain. He has broadcast over more than 300 stations in this country and Canada.

Art Gillham with whom we rolled spaghetti not so many weeks ago, has signed his "John Henry" to a Columbia contract, and will soon be heard several times a week, over WJAS. Art was accompanist at a Chicago station in 1922, took a dare and took the air on his own. Since then he has played over more than 300 stations, and become a hound for coffee and food. "Yuh haven't got a cup of coffee in your pocket, have yuh, Art?" Good luck pal, we'll be listenin'.

1931, Feb 5

New York CBS Radio Roundup

Screen, stage and radio performers and a 40-piece orchestra directed by Freddie Rich are to have a weekly radio roundup on WABC and chain starting the night of February 5. The idea is to bring before the microphone outstanding stars from the three fields of entertainment, the first program to include Lee Morse, blues singer; Art Gillham, planist; The Jolly Jugglers, comedy duo; Ruth Glenn and Katherine Kent, Harmony Singers, and Theo Karl, tenor.

10:30—KDKA, Clara, Lu and Em. WJAS, Radio Roundup. Lee Morse, blues singer; Art Gillham, the "Whispering Pianist;" the Jolly Jugglers comedy duo; Ruth Glenn and Katherine Kent, harmony singers, and Theo Karle, tenor. Orchestra direction Freddie Rich.

NEW PROGRAM ON CBS

A new weekly program to be known as the "Radio Roundup" presenting screen, stage and radio presenting screen, stage and radio presenting screen, stage and radio place orchestra directed by Freddie Rich, will have its inaugural broad-case were WiERC and the Columbia to the control of th

Not sure how jugglers went over on radio.

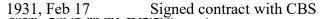
1931, Feb 13

1931, Feb 15 Columbia ad 2374-D

Art Gillham, the "Whispering Pianist" who long has been a feature of the air waves, will be heard over the Columbia Broadcasting System several times weekly. "Member that good oi' tune, "Shine On, Harvest Moon"? Art Gilham, the whispering planist, sings this, and on the other side, "If You're Happy, I'll Be Glad." Art whispers mighty low in these two. You'll like him—he's different.

Art Gillham, "the whispering planist," has been engaged for several weekly broadcasts over the CBS chain. He has broadcast over more than 300 stations in this country and Canada.





Art Gillham, "whispering planist of record fame, has affixed his signature to a management con-

tract with the Columbia Broadcasting System over whose network he
soon will be heard several times
weekly. One of his pet gags, while
his fingers run over the keyboard
is to tell his listener she is "the
world's worst piano player until he
begins singing."

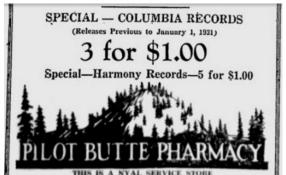
"The Whispering Pianist" Will Be Heard on WLAC

Art Gillham, "The Whispering Pianist," who long has been a feature of the air-waves, has affixed his signature to a mamagement contract with the Columbia Broadcasting system over whose network he soon will be heard several times weekly.

Art's style is informal and whether he is talking or singing, his voice never is forced. While his fingers run over the keyboard, Gillham tells his auditors he is "the world's worse piamo-player until he begins singing."

His programs will be heard over WLAC.





Ad shows effect of depression on sale of phonograph records

1931, Feb. 28 New York: *American* reports Art has signed with CBS.

Whispering Pianist Signs
Whispering Pianist Signs
With Columbia Radio Chain

Art Gillham, Long Known to Broadcast Audiences
Through 300 Stations About Country; Immediate Hit
as, Novelty Singer; Began in 1922.

Art Gillham, The Whispering Planist, who long has been a feature of the air waves, has affixed his signature to a management contract with the Columbia Broadcasting system over whose network he
soon will be heard several times weekly.

Back in 1922 at a Chicago station, Gillham made, his entrance as a
broadcaster, playing the accompaniments for studio singers. One day in
response to the familiar "dare," heembarked on his own as a vocalist.

Since that occasion he has broadforthwith as a novelty singer.

Since that occasion he has broadforthwith as a novelty singer.

Since that occasion he has broadforthwith as a novelty singer.

Since that occasion he has broadforthwith as a novelty singer.

Since that occasion he has broadforthwith as a novelty singer.

Since that occasion he has broadforthwith as a novelty singer.

Since that occasion he has broadforthwith as a novelty singer.

Since that occasion he has broadforthwith as a novelty singer.

Since that occasion he has broadforthwith as a novelty singer.

Since that occasion he has broadforthwith as a novelty singer.

Since that occasion he has broadforthwith as a novelty singer.

Since that occasion he has broadforthwith as a novelty singer.

Since that occasion he has broadforthwith as a novelty singer.

Since that occasion he has broadsinger with many of his numbers

were forced. While his fingers run

over the keybacd, Gillham tells
singer singing, his voice is
suddiors he is "the world's worst
has additors he is "the world's worst
has a proadsinger that the count of the source of the second of the source of t

1931, Feb New York on WABC (CBS) Syncopated Pessimism and Breakfast With Art

1931, Mar Columbia List.

1931, Mar Record release: Columbia 2374-D

1931, Mar. 3 New York: *Mirror*, Walter Winchell recommends Art's *Shine On Harvest Moon*.



Recommended to diversion seekers: Art Gillham's excellent platter of the old chune, "Shine On, Shine On, Harvest Moon"..."The Candy Vendor," by "The Peanut Vendor" composer...The Ginger Rogers charm...The billing on the Audubon theater, a vaudeville and movie house..."Texas Guinan-Once a Sinner"...That amazing little white boy actor in the flicker "Rango"...That very comical and captionless drawing in Life on page 11. Haw!!!...Anything Katherine Cornell acts...The phonorecords of Noel Coward and Gertrude Lawrence in two scenes from "Private Lives"...B. M. T. stock...Jean Malin at the Club Argonaut...and four bacardi cocktails plus a dash of pineapple juice and then leave a call for Thursday.



1931, Mar. 4 Cleveland: *Press* article.

1931, Mar. 7 New York: *Evening World*: "Art Gillham - Radio Barnstormer - Finds Permanent Home".



7:45—Daddy and Exilo, with Nick Dawson and Donald Hughes, Written by J. P. McEvoy. Ted Husing, announcer.
8:00—Art Gillham, Syncopated Pessimism.
8:15—Rhythm Choristers, Freddie Rich Orch.
Ninety-nine Out of a Hun-

1931, Mar. 12 New

New York: recorded 2 titles for Columbia:

151415-1-2-3 Another Broken Heart

(Johnson - Davis)

Not issued

151416-1-2-3 As Long As We Have Each Other

(____)

Not issued

1931, March 15 New York how CBS adds Whispering to beginning

of Art's program

1931 March 27 New York CBS

ON THE RADIO

By the Associated Press.

Tonight.

Art Gillham in syncopated pessimism, WABC and stations at 5:30 o'clock.

Beatrice Lillie, English comedienne, Del Staigers, cornetist, and Nat Brusiloff's orchestra, WJZ and others at 7:00.

One theme song that serves consecutive broadcasts is "Whispering," played by Herb Gordon's Orchestra in Washington Monday afterneons and picked up by Art Gillham for his program from New York. A bit of juggling on the part of Columbia engineers serves to fade out the orchestra's version of "Whispering" and to bring in Gillham's playing of the same number without missing a beat.

Incidentally Herb Gordon's boys

Incidentally Herb Gordon's boys turn out some neat dance tunes and they're worthy a better spot on the C. B. C. Brooklyn: *Eagle* has publicity photo for *Syncopated Pessimism* heard on WABC every Friday at 6:30 pm.



1931, Apr. 7

Jersey City: *Journal*. Publicity photo for *Syncopated Pessimism* and article.

1931, Apr. 3

Washington: *Star* article "Folks Behind The Microphone."

TODAY'S FIVE BEST RADIO
FEATURES
Copyright, 1931, by UP.
WABC (CBS Network) 5:00 p.
m.—Art Gillham and Orchestra.
WEAF (NBC Network) 7:00 p.
m.—Rudy Vallee.
WABC (CBS Network) 7:15 p.
m.—Barbara Maurel.
WJZ (NBC Network) 8:30 p.
m.—Ensemble.
WEAF (NBC Network) 9:00 p.
m.—B. A. Rolfe Orchestra.

1931, April 10

Art listed as "monologist, Georgia"

COLUMBIA TALENT

ASSEMBLED FROM

ALL OVER WORLD

(ID: Associated Frees)

(ID:

Art Gillham, The Radio Performer



Art Gillham, according to the latest census, has had 763 initations, but on the whole they have never worried him, because, as he is quick to point out, they can sing and he can't. Further, they are probably better piano players. "If," he declares, mounfully, "anyone ever comes along who is

"anyone ever comes along who is as talentless as I, then it will be just too bad."

just too bad."

Now you have the key to the lugubrious Art Gillham, "Whispering planist," on KDYL, who from time to time during the week provides his listeners with fifteen minutes of "syncopated pessimism." He tells the microphone that he is "just a poor old man trying to get by," that he weighs 376 pounds, is bald headed, that he would rather be drinking a cup of coffee than annoying a piano and that the best things in life are acute melancholia and a broken heart.

Gillham's self analysis to his listeners is false. He is not bald and he is not massive. He is a trifle taller than 6 feet, weighs around 165 pounds, wears horn-rimmed glasses and has a "dead-pan." He does like coffee, consuming two quarts a day on most days and three quarts on special occasions, such as Arbor day and his birth-day, January 1.

day, January 1.

He receives fan mail galore, the total to date being in excess of 65,000 and he says that most of his correspondents offer sympathy for the down-trodden man they believe him to be, and voice their own tribulations at length. Ah, woe is Gillham.

New York: Sun, Art mentioned in "Who's Who On Radio".

Radio Recruits Variety Talent

Artists Represent All Parts of World.

New York, Apr. 11-(AP.)-The hand of the Columbia Broadcasting system extends far and wide in its search for radio entertainers.

Reaching out across the Atlantic it brought Andre Baruch, announcer from France, at the same time stretching out to Alsace for Barbara Maurel, contrakto. Along with these microphone stars came Toscha Sei-dell, well-known conductor and vi-olmist, and Andre Kostelanetz, from

omists, and Amer Kostelanetz, from Russia.

From England, Evan Evans, baritone, was recruited, while New-Joundand contributed Frank Knight to the announcers' staff.

Returning to America, where the majority of radio entertainers gathered their nuiscial and comic talents, iit collected Howard Barlow, symphony conductor, and Helen Nugent, contraito, from Ohio; Ann Leaf, mistress of the organ, Nebraska; Art Gillham, monologist, Georgia; Paul Tremaine, otchestia leader, Colorado, Ben Alley, tenor, Texas, and Lee More, blues singer, Tennessee



April 17, 1931 New York: Northside News



1931, Feb Record released: Columbia 2349-D

1931, Apr. 29 New York: Dorothea Kardel article.



1931, Spring

(Columbia was separated from Columbia Graphophone, Ltd.)

1931, May 12

New York, recorded 2 titles for Columbia:

151551-1-2 You Are The Rose Of My Heart

(Allison - Kendis)

Not issued (resumed on May 26, 1931)

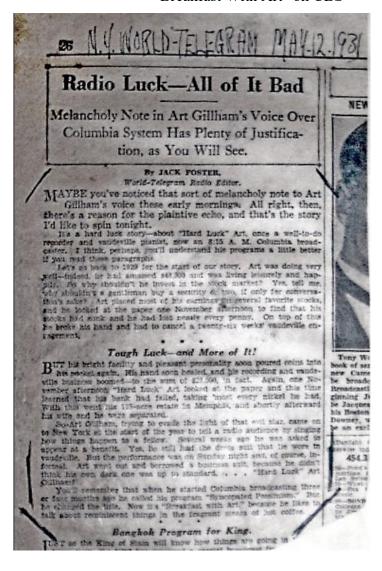
151552-1-2-3 You Treat Me Like A Baby

(Jack Palmer)

Not issued

1931, May 12

New York: *World Telegram*, p 26, Jack Foster article "Radio Luck - All Of It Bad." talks of his stock market loss, bank closing and loss of his Memphis estate, breaking his hand and canceling vaudeville trip, Program at 8:15 am called Breakfast With Art" on CBS







1931, May 20

Reported to be going to St. Louis WIL where he will have two programs: Syncopated Pessimism twice a week and a nightly variety show As You Like It.

Maybe His Star's Faded.

REMEMBER the story of "Hard Luck" Art Gillham I told you about REMEMBER the story of "Hard Luck" Art Gillham I told you about a couple of days ago? Well, maybe Art's luck has done a right-about-face. He bet on Sweep All to place in the Derby and won \$1,500.

Speaking of the Derby, they say that Clem McCarthy delivered the finest description of his life Saturday, and I guess that this is so. He didn't let jubilation carry him away. You see, he had a handful of tickets on Mate. . . . Earl Sande would have been on Mate, too. But he didn't have the ready cash. He went to Indiana Priday night.

MRY-20-B

1931, May 22

Yonkers: NY Herald reports a letter addressed to "Have You Got a Cup of Coffee in Your Pocket, New York, New York", were delivered to CBS. Art closed his broadcasts with the phrase: "That Uncle Sam's postal employees are represented among the millions of WABC listeners was attested when a letter mailed in Akron, Ohio addressed "Have You Got A Cup Of Coffee In Your Pocket? New York" was delivered to the Columbia studios for Art Gillham, who thus greets his radio listeners. New York, recorded his final 2 titles for Columbia:

1931, May 26

151551-3 You Are The Rose Of My Heart 151551-4 You Are The Rose Of My Heart

(Allison - Kendis)

Col 2506-D (resumed from May 12, 1931)

151571-1 Just A Minute More To Say Goodbye

151571-2 Just A Minute More To Say Goodbye

((Lewin - Gusman)

Col 2506-D

1931, May 31 New York

1931, June Record release: Columbia 2451-D

1931, June Columbia List

Return To St. Louis

1931, June St Louis, worked on WIL

1931, June Columbia Records Supplement: Something Reminds Me Of You; photo

By S. H. STEINHAUSER Hang the bozo who says good wishes aren't worth a darn. A few days ago we told you about Art Gill-



ham's hard luck. We said hoped that would get a some 'break' day soon. Probably a lot of you did too. Art got the break, and how. The placing of Sweep All in the Kentucky Derby swept \$1,600 into Art's pocket, Satur

Steinhauser pay for a lot of coffee. Now Art, a little smile, please.

Clem McCarthy, whose description of the race thrilled you, was being thrilled too, for when Mate placed, Clem collected on a whole pocketfull of tickets.

Wonders Heads Artists Bureau

Ralph Wonders, formerly in charge of dance orchestras for the Coum-bla Broadcasting System, has been appointed manager of the Columbia Broadcasting Artists Bureau. He will assume his new duties imme-diately.

diately.

Since he joined the broadcasting company last October, Wonders has signed under exclusive management signed under exclusive management such prominent orchestras as Jacques Renard, who will play for the new Camel series; Fletcher Henderson, Will Osborne, Harold Stern, Paul Tremaine, Frank Winegar, Pellx Ferdinando and Noble Sissle. Among the artists who also have affiliated themselves with Columbia exclusively through Wonders' negotiations are Morton Downey, Kate Smith, Beth and Betty Dodge, Reis and Dunn, Roy Atwell, The Bon Bons, Art Gillham and many others. Wonders is a graduate of Gettysburg College where he starred track athletics. After completing a course in civil engineering, he worked for several years on out-of-town

course in civil engineering, he worked for several years on out-of-town construction jobs for a New York firm. In 1913 he entered the enter-tainment field and later became di-rector of entertainment for the Am-bassador Hotel System throughout the country the country.

1931, June 13 New York resigns from CBS when his mother was hospitalized in St. Louis and began Syncopated Pessimism on WIL.

Other features this afternoor will include Ann Leaf at the organ at 2:45 for 15 minutes; a recital by Columbia artists at 3 o'clock; the Hotel Roosevelt orchestra at 3:30 Art Gillham at 4 o'clock; the Gypsy Music at 4:15; the Jolly Jugglers at 4:30; Ray Welch and his Royal Fulton orchestra at 5.

1931, June 14

article:

Phoney Address
That Uncle Sam's postal employees are represented among the millions of CBS listeners was attested when a letter mailed in Akron, O., addressed "Have You Got a Cup of Coffee in Your Pocket," New York, was delivered to the Columbia studios for Art Gillham, the "Whispering Pianist," who thus greets his listeners.

FOR THE TIRED BUSINESS MAN:

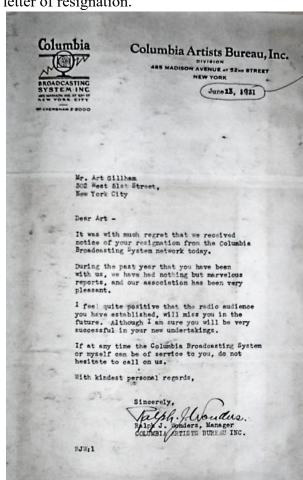
Comedy programs: "The Nit-Wits," "The Three Doctors," Art Gillham—"Syncopated Pessimism," Henry Burbig—Hebrew comic, Reis and Dunn—"Furious Fun," Dale Wimbrow+"Mississippi Minstrel," and many others.

1931, June 19 New York WABC

1931, June 21 Detroit: *Times* picture and blurb on *Syncopated*

Pessimism, heard on WXYZ at 4:00 pm.

1931, June 23 New York: Letter from CBS acknowledging his letter of resignation.





Than 200 Programs
Every Week—Chevalier
Concludes His Radio
Appearances Tonight—
Last Concert by Barlow's Symphony Orchestra Tuesday.

By J. L. S.

Art Gillham, who has won radio and recording fame as "the whispering planist," has joined WIL's production staff and on Monday will take charge of two programs over that station. He will do his "Synco-pated Pessimism" program, which will be virtually

ogram, which
ill be virtually
e same as one
has been
padcasting over
a CBS chain. He
to will be heard
thity on a vaty program
had "As You

ble will feature ART GILLHAM.
himself and other WIL entertainers. Virginia Frobase will be
featured by him in the first of
these broadcasts. Gillham, who is
a St. Louisan, began his broadcasting over WIL about five years ago.
He is residing here with his mother His "Syncopated Pessimism",
rograms are set for 1:30 p. m.
Toesdays and Thursday and Jhis
'As You Like It" for 11:30 p. m.
daily except Sunday.

1931, June 26 931, June 28 St. Louis: Globe Democrat:
St. Louis. *Post Dispatch*reports Art has joined WIL's production staff beginning
the next Monday, is residing with his mother.







1931, July Record re

Record release: Columbia 2506-D Art's last Columbia

record.

1931, July 5 Fiction of Georgia birth

Columbia is strong for artists from "way down south." Irene Beasley, Art Gillham, Dale Wimbrow, the Boswell sisters and Kate Smith all come from Dixie.



1931, July

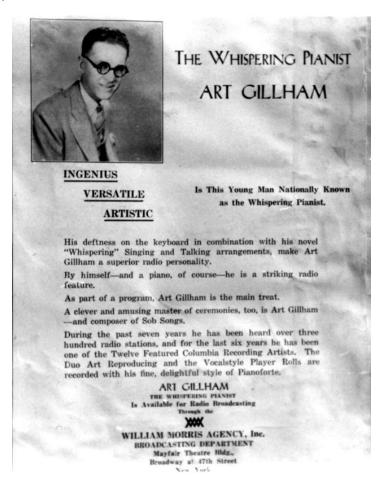
The Radio Digest: Marcelle column on Art's Syncopated Pessimism.

A page of Art's scrapbook



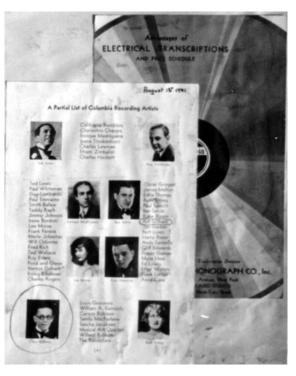


1931 New York: Art said he never had a manager, that he made all arrangements himself. However the depression forced him to seek professional management from William Morris Agency:



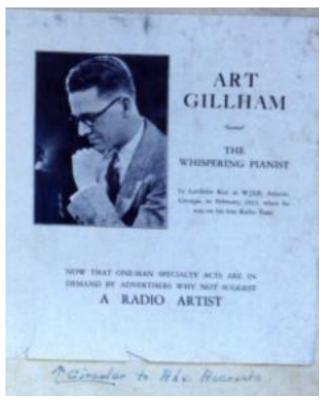
1931, August 18 Columbia transcriptions
 1931, Sept 9 Ad for last Columbia
 Record misspells title.

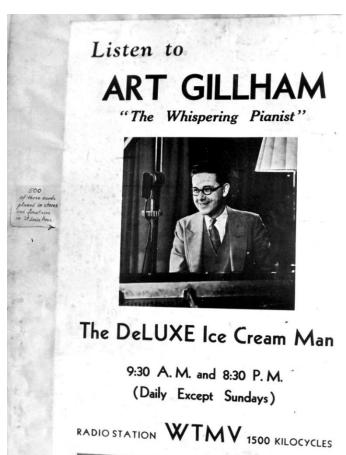




1931, Oct 22

St. Louis: WIL





1931, Nov.

Columbia Records Supplement lists 2291-D





ART GILLHAM

RT GILLHAM, according to the latest census, has had 763 imitators, but, on the whole, they have never worried him, because, as he is quick to point out, they can sing and he can't. Further, they are probably better piano players.

"If," he declares mournfully, "anyone ever comes along who is as talentless as I, then it will be just too bad."

Now you have the key to the lugubrious Art Gillham, "Whispering pianist" on the Columbia net work, who from time to time during the week provides his listeners with fifteen minutes of "syncopated pessimism." He tells the microphone that he is "just a poor old man trying to get by," that he weighs 376 pounds, is bald-headed, that he would rather be drinking a cup of coffee than annoying a piano, and that the best things in life are acute melancholia and a broken heart.

His dolefulness is designed to make people cry, his theory being that when people cry they can be happy. Perhaps there is in him a

bit of the Baconian-"What then remains but that we still should cry for being born, and, being born, to die."

On the other hand, it may be absurd to look for philosophical implications in Art Gillham. More likely he is merely a modernday troubadour who through radio is enabled to reach more ears in a single night than could a provencal minstrel in a lifetime. Gillham is broadcasting's barnstormer. He has been heard over more than 300 stations in the United States and Canada.

Gillham's self-analysis to his listeners is false. He is not bald and he is not massive. He is a trifle taller than 6 feet, weighs around 165 pounds, wears horn-rimmed glasses, and has a "dead-pan." He does like coffee, consuming two quarts a day on most days and three quarts on special occasions.

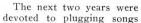
such as Arbor Day and his birthday, January 1.

The whisperer was born 36 years ago in Atlanta, and had his schooling in St. Louis. His father was anxious to have him study medicine, but after he had seen a few dissections at St. Louis University, he abandoned all thoughts of being a surgeon and joined a traveling orchestra as a pianist. Landing on the West Coast, he formed sev-

eral orchestras, one of which the Art Gillham Society Syncopators, won a consid-

erable reputation.

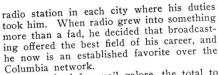
In 1912 he returned to St. Louis with two close pals, Scott Middleton and Billy Smythe. Together the trio wrote "Hesitation Blues," which became a tremendous hit, selling more than 4,000,-000 copies. The song was the basis of hundreds of parodies. Rolling in wealth, Gillham came to New York and started dabbling in the stocks. Within four months he went back to St. Louis and his money remained in Wall Street.



for a St. Louis publisher. Then he was transferred to the Chicago office, where he sold music, wrote songs, and directed the divisional sales staff until America entered the war. After ten months of helping to make the world safe for democracy and whispering pianists he returned to Chicago and the music publishing business.

Resuming his sales and song plugging efforts, he put over such hits as "He May Be Your Man," "Drifting Back to Dreamland," and "How Do You Do." Radio being a new medium in those days, Gillham sensed its possibilities as a sales promoting medium and started singing his firm's numbers over Station WDAP, one of Chicago's pioneer stations.

A promotion brought wider territory, and Gillham made it a point to sing from the



He received fan mail galore, the total to date being in excess of 65,000, and he says that most of his correspondents offer sympathy for the down-trodden man they believe him to be, and voice their own tribulations at length. Ah ,woe is Gillham.

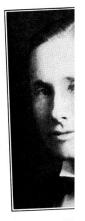
ATE must surely have been quietly smiling that wintry morning in 1905 in the little town of Querida, Colorado, as

observed the arrival of young Harvey Wixson. She must have smiled to note how "coming events cast their shadows before," as she saw how the program of the family's Christmas festivities . . . indeed their entire daily schedule . . was being rearranged to suit the comfort and the needs and the tastes of this young man. Thus, early in life did Harvey fill the position of program director, though it was many years before the title belonged to him officially.

His is the picturesque background of a pioneering ancestry that had braved the dangers of hostile Indians

and crossed the plains in one of the early wagon trains, so that they might make thei home in the new West of which they had heard such wonderful things. Time proved however, that delightful summers and beau tiful sunsets were not all that were neede for their idea of a home, and so the nex generation moved westward again and foun in Washington, surroundings more to the liking. At that time Harvey was still qui small.

Followed, for him, farm life . . . scho days . . . working hard and winning reco nition. Winning honors in high school as college both from the student body and t faculty . . . winning the Kappa Beta scho arship while at the Lewiston State Norm and the vocal scholarship during his fres



St. Louis *Globe Democrat*, p 7: "Radio's Syncopated Pessimist" full page article. In charge of WIL's artists' bureau. Tells his mother, age 73. She had an accident in July and had several broken bones



1931, Dec. 5 St. Louis Radio and Entertainment article.



1931, Dec. 23

St Louis paper, p 7A, reports a man posing as Art Gillham ran up charges in his name.

1931

Chicago. Art recorded an unknown number of titles for Allied Transcriptions. The exact dates, matrix numbers and release numbers are unknown. Art recalled the transcriptions as made in Chicago in 1931. The known titles are:

Song Without A Name

If You Believe In Me

Looking For Someone To Love

If You're Happy, I'll Be Glad

I Don't Suppose

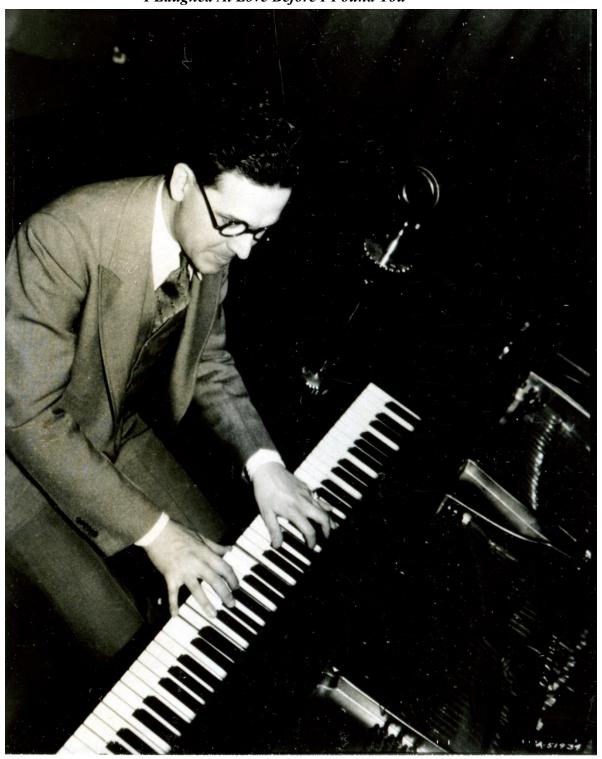
Something Reminds Me Of You

When You Pressed Your Lips To Mine

Silver-Haired Sweetheart

I'm A Millionaire, For I Have You

I'm Losing You
I'm Lonesome For You, That's All
I Laughed At Love Before I Found You



Return To Chicago 1932

Art began 1932 in St Louis on WIL and keeping his options open. He considered himself as a top notch advertiser successfully doing promotions for various companies on his radio programs. Is mother healed and Art moved on to Chicago WBBM. At the studio he met Gertrude Shelton who had a program on beauty hints. He became intrigued with her because she had not heard of Art Gillham. After a short romance they married, and remained married until his death in 1961. While no longer recording for Columbia, he did make a number of transcriptions that stations could play without his being present.

1931/1932	Circular to advertising accounts states he headlined in the Keith and Publix houses
	and the Pantages and Loew's circuits, playing Loew's twice. Circular gives quotes

from newspapers.

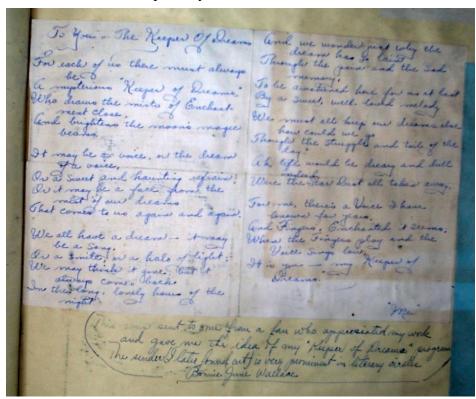
1932 Sheet Music: My Dream Girl

1932, Jan 2 St Louis: WIL at 11:30 pm

1932, Jan 4 Cincinnati - a request for lyrics of Just Forget

1932, Jan 16 St Louis WIL program name The Keeper of Dreams,

Inspired by a letter for Art from a fan.



Thanks to Alice Bollinger for a wanted poem, "Just Forget:"

JUST FORGET.

Words and music by Billy Smythe and Art Gillham.

I'm so lonesome today and, though you've gone away.

Som-how, you're on my mind:
The whole day long I've vondered
What happiness you'll find.

While it's best we should part, I just hope in the season of the seaso

1932, Jan. 30

St. Louis: Letter from WIL "To Whom It May Concern" stating Art has been with them for 8 months and they recommend him to other broadcasters.

1932, Feb. St. Louis: Mother recovered and Art left WIL for Chicago

1932, Apr 28 Chicago Daily Times, radio page now on WBB ILY TIMES, CHICAGO, THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 1932

Art Gillham

Now on WBBM.

A RT GILLHAM, "the whispering planist," who was on WILfor a long time, is featured by WBBM, Chicago (770kc) at 9:45 a. m. Tuesday, Thursday and on Sunday at 12:30 noon. . . Roxy is expected back on an NBC chain with a weekly program in the tall.

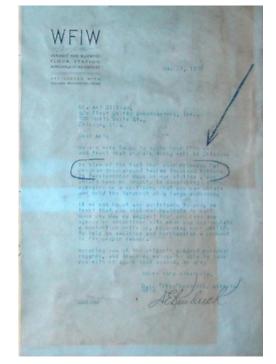
1932, May 8 Chicago





1932, May 21 Chicago. Letter from sponsor WFIW - his "Princess Pat" program drew 12,000

letters in 23 days.



1932, June 26 Chicago:

> Art Gillham, the "whispering pianist," plays over WBBM at 10:45 a. m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and at 12:15 noon Sundays. . . . Jes-

the Sharkey-Schmeling fight. . . . Art Gillham, the "whispering pianist," plays over WBBM at 10:45 a. m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and at 12:15 noon Sundays. . . . Jes-sica Dragonette is supposed to be

1932, Aug-Oct Chicago: WBBM on air daily, except Sunday, 9:15 am

Chicago while broadcasting over WBBM he met Gertrude Sheldon, who was on 1932, Aug. the air after his program. She had a program on beauty tips. They married two

months later.

Chicago: Daily Times, "Listening In" by Yank Taylor, Art Gillham on WBBM at 1932, Sept.

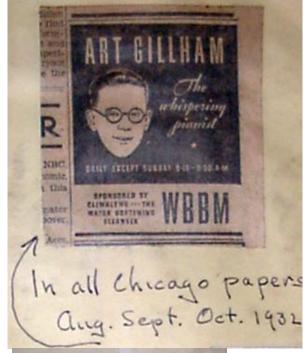
6:45 pm twice a week series. New song composed: My Dream Girl.

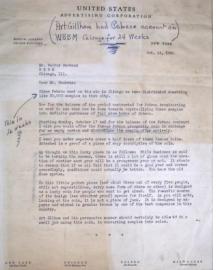
1932, Sept Chicago:

1932, Oct 14



Chicago letter from advertiser re Art's successful radio campaign On WBBM..



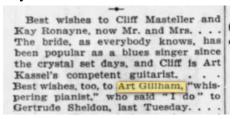


1932, Late

(Columbia changed its label eliminating the words "Viva-tonal" and in its place adding "78 R.P.M.")

1932, Oct. 25

Chicago: Married Gertrude May Sheldon.



Art said he was attracted to her because she had never heard of Art Gillham.



1932, Oct 13

Allied Transcriptions now available to be used by stations across the country. Dates when transcriptions were made are unknown.

9008 (title unknown)

9009 (title unknown)

9053 If I could Find You Tonight

9053 I'll Be The Meanest Guy In Town

9053 Melancholy Baby

9054 (title unknown)

9055 (title unknown)

9056 (title unknown)

9071 (title unknown

9072 So Tired

9072 You Don't Care

9072 Never

9073 (title unknown)

9074 I'm Crazy 'bout My Baby

9074 Some of These Days

1932, Oct. 14	Chicago. WBBM Pebeco Account for 24 weeks letter coability	ommenting on Art's sales
1932, Nov	Chicago WBBM	WFBG Lists
1932, Dec. 16	Chicago. Radio Pebeco series on WBBM concludes,	New Programs
	having drawn 30,000 inquiries for the product.	
1932, Dec.	(Columbia changed its label from Black to Royal	Local Radio Station Announces New Policy of
	Blue using blue shellac. The blue shellac was	Varied Broadcasts With the acquisition of new tal-
	discontinued in 1936.)	ent and additional features. WFBG today inaugurates a new policy in presentation of daily programs. A
1932, Dec 13	Altoona, PA: Article about use of transcriptions. Notes	greater variety of entertaining and educational broadcasts are prom- ised the listeners within the range
	"marks the passing of phonograph recordings"WFBG	of the station, this movement on the part of the station manage- ment being an effort to send out
	announces Art Gillham series at noon via transcriptions.	
1932, Dec 29	Chicago: WBBM	today in The Altoona Tribune con- tains more variety than has ever before been offered to the radio public and in addition marks the passing of phonograph recordings.

WFBG Lists **New Programs**

Local Radio Station Announces New Policy of Varied Broadcasts

The new schedule as it appears today in The Altoona Tribune contains more variety than has ever before been offered to the radio public and in addition marks the passing of phonograph recordings. Aside from choice electrically tran-scribed programs the remainder of the schedule will be filled with "live talent" broadcasts taking up 15, 30 and 60-minute periods.

Included in the new array of presentations the public is invited to here are: the Two Keys, a voice and a guitar; Ellen and Roger, a weekly skit presented by a boy and a girl seeking fame in movie land; a girl seeking rame in movie iam. Stroehmann's Serenaders; the birthday greeter; Dean Driscoll's tri-weekly radio revue of music; the Town Crier with an afternoon resume of daily news events; Russell Young Marsa large internity. resume of daily news events; Russell Young, Negro jazz pianist; the Wright Angle, an evening broadcast by Art Wright, Tribune columnist, with comment on the day's news and sports; the Tuesday evening Chapel Hour; Piano Moods; Jack and Gene; the Cathedral Players; daily household hints; Clement Hershey accordingts and Holly. Hershey, accordionist and Holly-wood Snapshots by the studio Chatterbox, bringing the inside stories on lives of picture favorites.

A new daily presentation at nooff will be broadcast by way of electrical transcription and will bring to local listeners such popular ar-tists as Dan Russo and His Orioles, Jimmy Kemper, Art Gillham and a variety of other popular artists who are heard regularly over national hook-ups.

The most popular person now ap-

pearing before the microphone twice daily is Santa Claus who is heard reading letters as he rests from making toys at 2:45 and 7:15 p. m.

p. m.

The personnel of WFBG, the
Gable Broadcasting Co., Inc., is
comprised of Roy F. Thompson, diresting manager and the following staff: Jack Snyder, Willard Fraker, Albert Friedman, James Moffatt, operator, and Miss Hilda Fochler, studio hostess and stenographer.

St. Louis And Texas

1933

Art starts out 1934 in Chicago's WBBM. He heads south, stopping at a couple of stations before being back in St Louis at KMOX. He had success in selling his sponsors' products. He is made chairman of the entertainment section of St. Louis' NRA Committee. At the end of the year he heads to Texas.

1933, Jan 5 Chicago: WBBM

1933, Jan 27 Ironwood, MI: WJMS

1933 *RAE Yearbook*, photo

1933 Columbia Catalog lists 2245-D Just Forget/Tonight; 2374-D Shine On Harvest

Moon/ If You're Happy I'll Be Glad; and 2506-D Just A Minute More To Say

Goodbye/You Are The Rose Of My Heart. The last Columbia catalog to list Art

Gillham records.

April 1, 1933 Rock Island, IL: WKBF

April 22, 1933 Rock Island: WKBF

April 28, 1933 St Louis: KMOX

1933, April 30

KMOX Engages Art Gillham.

Art Gillham is back in St. Louis, his home town, to sing over KMOX. His career has been colorful, reaching the pinnacle of success in both broadcasting and recording fields. The story of his rise from an accompanist back in 1922, to fame as singer and pianist, is as well known in the small towns as on Broadway Back in 1923 Art Gillham took a chance; someone dared him to sing and he did. His style of singing became instantly popular. During his nine years of broadcasting he has made 172 phonograph records and more than 11,000,000 have been sold, according to his royalty statements Gillham will be heard on KMOX starting next Monday, from 9:30 to 9:45 p. m.

Art Gillham, the "whispering pianist," is back in St. Louis, his home city, broadcasting daily at 9:30 p. m. over KMOX. He has been a radio star since 1922 as well as a vaudeville headliner, and has written a number of songs that have won popularity.



St. Louis . Mo

1933, May St. Louis: broadcasting at KMOX, *Globe-Democrat* ad

sponsored by Enterprise Cleaning, Mondays,

Wednesdays, Fridays at 10:15 am

1933, May St. Louis: *Globe Democrat*: article "Whispering Pianist

Back on the Air Here." Broadcasting for 13 weeks at

KMOX each night at 9:30. states sales of Columbia

Records were 11,000,000.

1933, May 1 St Louis: begins broadcast series over KMOX each night except Sunday.

1933, May St Louis: Associated Broadcasting Bureau announces Art will be available on July 1 for new advertising accounts in addition to his Battle Creek

Products program. New program time available at 12:30 pm.Weekly rate \$252.00

(\$4700 in 2018 dollars)

. OFFICIAL SALES BULLETIN .

Associated Broadcasting Bureau

EXCLUSIVE MERCHANNISHS SERVICE FOR ADVERTISERS & ADVERTISING AGENCIES & RADIO STATIONS

General Offices: Mart Building + St. Leuis + Phone, GArfield 5289

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT TO ALL ADVERTISERS AND ADVERTISING AGENCIES

TO THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY O

ART GILLHAM "The Whispering Fiantst" Services Available July lat. Radio's Greatest Salesman .. known to millions.

Has broadcast over 300 stations, one year a sustaining feature for Columbia Broadcasting System. He has made 172 records for the Columbia Fhonograph Company, eleven million have been sold. Recording artist for Vocal-Style and Duc-Art player rolls, a headliner for Loew, Pantages, Fublix and RKO Theatres.

In a period of 16 weeks, ending the 15th of December, 1932, he pulled 30,000 inquiries at WBBM, Chicago, for PERECO Toothpasto. In twenty-four days he produced 12,000 inquiries for the makers of Frincess Pat.

The outstanding radio successes are individual personalities .. Ed Wynn .. Jack Pearl .. Singin' Sam .. Smilin' Ed McConnell .. Little Jack Little .. and we add ART OILLHAM to the list of notables. He will be ready starting July 1st, for sponsorship in St. Louis.

ART GILLHAM broadcasts each night from EMOX for the Battle Creek Fro-ducts Co. His services during the day are available for ONE St. Louis account. Hear him tonight at 9:30 KMOX . What a selling job ho does!



Regardless of the product, Gillam knows what it takes to develop sales.

Here's a REAL NETWORK star awaiting your call.

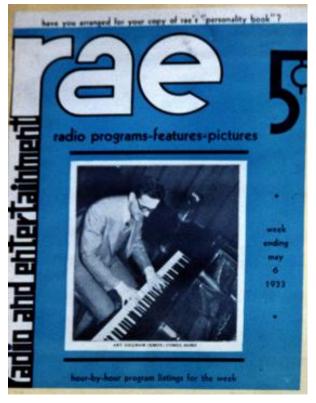
May we sudi-tion a pro-gram for you?

\$252.00 Three programs 15 minutes each - Time 12:30 PM Noon CALL GARfield 5289 for more de-tails.

Art Gillhom - the Master Salesman.

1933, May 6

St Louis: RAE Magazine (Radio And Entertainment) Art is featured on the cover. Article states he made his first piano roll in 1912 for Marimba.





Starting Saturday . . . for One Week Here's what they say:

Hold Everything

Fullerizing

SCANDALS

Ambassador Theatre

Here's what they say:

Wm. Mitchell, President,
Enterprise Cleaning Go,
St. Louis, Mo.
"The reputation of your company and its exclusive process
has caused us to save all garments for cleaning until we read particularly anxious the best particularly anxious the best particularly anxious the best particularly anxious the best particularly anxious for the particularly anxious repearance at the Ambassador. You can arrange to pick up our cleaning while we are in your city. We believe in Fullerizing, we know that it RENEWS...

PROTECTS and PRESERVES our clothes."

clothes."
Signed, Willie Howard,
Eugene Howard



Willie

and Eugene HOWARD stars

of GEORGE WHITE'S

Fullerizing Renews Protects and Preserves

FULLERIZING is applied to all fabrics, from the gown to heavy oriental rugs and furs, in our great have facilities for handling all YOUR cleaning prise has but one quality of work... the best. Ent. Company has the exclusive rights to use Fullerizity You cannot get the same service from any other of

Enterprise "Whispering Pianist" KMOX . . . Tomorrow Morning at 7:30 A. M.

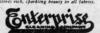


Don't miss hearing Art Gillham, each Monday, Wednesday and Friday he brings you the inside story on FULLERIZING

- tells you have to save money and solve your cleaning problems. Hear him tomorrow morning at 7:30.

Fullerizing

Exclusive in St. Louis at JE. 3110



1933, May 25: St Louis: Fullerizing ad. Art on KMOX



Arthur Pryor: Twenty Words. No More, No Less. He is waiting for band music to come back again.

Art Gillham, the original "whispering pianist," out at KMOX, St. Louis, after a long career as a Columbia artist.

1933, June 4

St Louis:

Art Gillham is playing over KMOX at 12:30 noon Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. . . . The "Know St.

Don't miss hearing Art Gillham, each Monday, Wednesday and Friday he be you the inside story on FULLERIZING

. . . tells you how to save money and solve your cleaning problems. Hear him tomorrow morning at 7:30.

For a photo of Art Gillham, address a card to Enterprise.

1933, June St. Louis: KNOX program at 7:30 am for

Enterprise Cleaning

1933, June 4 St Louis:

Art Gillham, the original "whispering pianist," out at KMOX, St. Louis, after a long career as a Columbia artist.

1933, July St. Louis: Promoted tour to Chicago World's
Fair on Wabash Railroad through Burkett Tours





1933, July 22 St Louis: article on Art's Special train:

Another veteran of the ether waves, Art Gillham, i, back to ride the air waves from KMOX of St. Louis.

He will be heard over the St. Louis station from 11:45 to 12 noon on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

1933, July 30 St. Louis: *Globe Democrat* article about Art boarding special train car "Art Gillham Special" for trip to Chicago World's Fair.

New Tour Ideas.

Competition of railroads to capture the lion's share of the heavy passenger traffic to Chicago during A Century of Progress has brought forth several innovations. One of these just introduced by the Burkett tours agency which operates on the Wabash, is to introduce and carry radio stars along on the train to entertain.

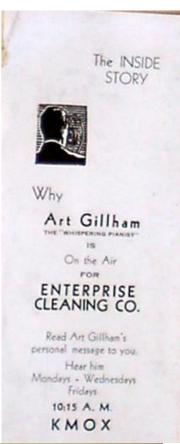
The first of these will be next Saturday, July 28, from St. Louis to Chicago and the attraction on the train will be Art Gillham, known as "the old man of the air" on station KMOX. This is one of the Burkett all-expense tours and the rate from Decatur for this tour will be \$13.50. It will leave Decatur early Saturday morning and arrive back in Decatur early Monday morning.



1933, Aug. St Louis *Globe-Democrat*. Photo captioned Whispering Pianist.

1933, Aug. St. Louis. *The Laundryman's Guide*, p 12: "Radio Boosts Volume Of These Cleaners 127 Percent" due to Art's broadcasts in ad lib style Enterprise Cleaning had to add 22 people and 3 trucks during the first 6 weeks









1933, Sept. 10 St Louis. Globe-Democrat picture of Local Radio NRA Committee. Art was chairman of the radio section of the St. Louis sub-committee of the National NRA.





Art's make believe cat that he referred to on his broadcasts beginning in Memphis

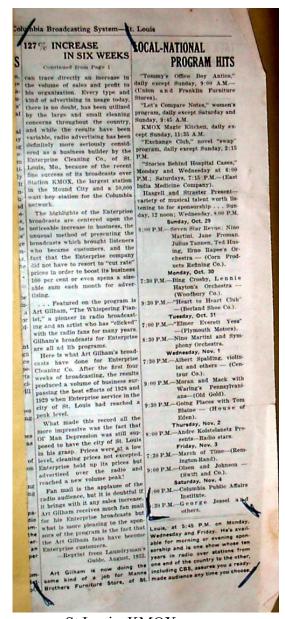


1933, Oct 15

Pittsburgh Press: WJAS station history:

1933, Oct

St Louis Art's stimulating business For Enterprise Dry Cleaners.



Station WJAS came into existence as a 100 watter in 1920 when Ken Thomas and Bill Menges built a transmitter at 963 Liberty Avenue. This was an experimental affair.

This was an experimental affair.

A year later, WJAS blossomed into a 500-watt station and programs were broadcast from the Pickering store. The first studio was built in one of the store windows and from it such headliners as Ukulele Ike (Cliff Edwards), Benny Rubin, Art Gillham, Johnny Mack, the late Tommy Malle and others broadcast.

After a year with 500 watts the station was incorporated with the Pittsburgh Radio Supply House on Dec. 2, 1922, with H. J. Brennen in charge.

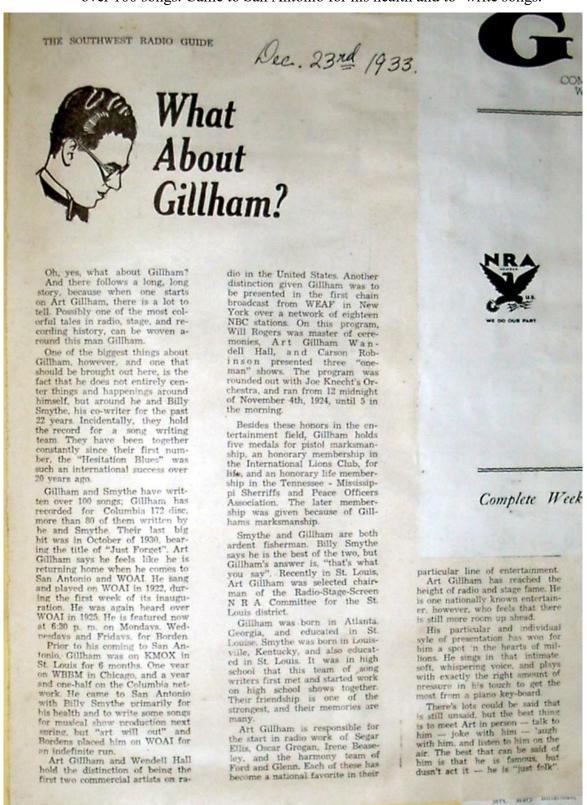




1933, Nov

St Louis: KMOX

San Antonio. Southwest Radio Guide article "What About Gillham". Art and Billy Smythe have been together as a song writing team since 1915, have written over 100 songs. Came to San Antonio for his health and to write songs.



1934

San Antonio - tour - St Louis

1934, Early

Columbia Records was acquired by American Record Corp when Grigsby-Grunow Company failed. ARC purchased Columbia for \$70,000. It already had purchased Brunswick, Vocalion, Perfect, Banner and other labels. Apparently this resulted in several of Art Gillham's Columbia recordings to be re-released on Vocalion and Perfect, possibly to take advantage of his new recording release on Bluebird.

Art began 1934 in San Antonio, Texas with Billy Smythe. He was made an honary member of the Texas Rangers. He was a supporter of law enforcement in general. He alleged his father had been a Texas Ranger, but no evidence has been found for George Gillham in Texas Ranger records. The paperwork shows Art listed his birthplace as Atlanta. It is noted that Art used Whispering as his theme song. Art has stated he was in the room in San Francisco in 1920 when the song was written but made no claim as being involved in writing it. He made his last commercial recording, released on Victor's Bluebird label. The newspaper, the San Antonio Light had several articles about Art and Billy Smythe as song writing partners in the Around The Plaza column. Art did a tour of small theatres, then returned to St. Louis before ending the year in Chicago.

1934, abt Jan.

1934, abt Jan.

1934, Feb. 16

Sheet Music. *Somebody Painted My Dream Castle Blue*. Billy Smythe & Art Gillham, Fred Foster Music,

Sheet Music. Alone. Billy Smythe and Art Gillham, Fred Foster Music.

Austin, Tx: certificate issued appointing Art as a Special Ranger in Texas Rangers, an honorary position as it was to expire on February 15, 1936, and was without compensation. The records show him discharged on January 22, 1935.

Authorised July 7, 1965.
ENLISTMENT, OATH OF SERVICE AND DESCRIPTION
RANGER FORCE
2 m 0 = m 1 3 1 3 1 3 1 3 1 3 1 3 1 3 1 3 1 3 1
TOR IN SOLUTION
Company Ranger Force, Station
E 000
THE STATE OF TEXAS,
County of Wexan
I Art Gillhame born in Atlanta
in the State of Storgen, aged 39 years and 2 months, and by occupation a
Radio & Reed artist do hereby acknowledge to have voluntarily enlisted this 16 = day of
Tebruary , 193 4, as a private in the Ranger Force of this State, for the period of two
years, unless sooner discharged by proper authority, without compensation. And I do solemnly swear
that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as an officer
of the Ranger Force according to the best of my skill and ability, agreeably to the Constitution and laws
of the United States and of this State, and I do further solemnly swear that since the adoption of the
Constitution of this State, I being a citizen of this State have not fought a duel with deadly weapons,
nor have I acted as second in carrying a challenge, or aided, advised or assisted any person thus offend-
ing. And I furthermore answer that I have not, directly or indirectly, paid, offered or promised to pay,
contributed nor promised to contribute, any money or valuable thing, or promised any public office or
employment, to secure my appointment. So help me God.
at Tillam
Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 16 th day of Flormary, A. D. 198 4.
4
Swall Colawy
Fill in description below.
I certify that Art Gillam, the above named man, has been carefully examined by me
previous to his enlistment, and to the best of my knowledge and belief he is physically able, competent to
and will faithfully perform the duties incumbent on him in accordance with law. This man is 39
years 2 months of age. Height 6 feet 1 inches. Complexion dark Eyes brown
Hair Block Born at atlanta County of Fulton State of Georgia
Weight 195 lbs. Residence 1147 W. ashley Ol. Saw Outsice Vex
Occupation Redio + Record artist Married or single Married Previous service
Sonary life numbership-Sheriffs + Prace Officers alow, Tennessee
and Mississippi

	STATE (OI	TEXAS
ADJU'	TANT GENI	ERAL'S DEP	ARTMENT
Wanna	est of Author	rity and Desc	mistina Tiat
warra	ni of Author	ily and Desc	ripitoe Lisi
THIS IS TO CE	RTIFY, That the bear	erArt G	411ham
ic c. Special Rang	er in Sta	Ranger Ranger	Force, State of Texas, and this
3.77			egislature of the State of Texas,
			will be exhibited as his authority
			nt must be surrendered to Com-
signed by The Adjuant			thority and Descriptive List is
Name Art Gil			Special Ranger
Age 39 year			Atlanta, Georgia
Height 6 feet		Occupation Rad	io & Record Artist
Weight 195 1bs		Residence	San Antonio, Texas
Hair Black		Enlisted Where	Austin, Texas
Eyes Brown		Enlisted When	February 16, 1934
Complection Dark		Enlisted by Who	Henry Hutchings
This warrant of authori	ty is void after Fe		The Adjutant General
	this Department for		Table of the second
and must be returned to		11.	
and must be returned to			
and must be returned to			
and must be returned to	U. Given us	der my band and seel	of office this 16th
and must be returned to		der my hand and seal	of office, this 16th
and must be returned to		nder my hand and seal	of office, this 18th
and must be returned to			of office, this 16th 194 4 The Adjutant General.

1934. Feb San Antonio: WOAI

1934, Feb. 20

San Antonio: *The Light*. Article "Around The Plaza" about Art Gillham and Billy Smythe. States they just published *Somebody Painted My Dream Castle Blue*, published by Fred Foster in Chicago. Billy Smythe is a certified public accountant. The article credits the Smythe-Gillham team as writers of *Hesitation Blues* and incorrectly credits Smythe-Gillham as composers of *He May Be Your Man*. Art was involved in plugging the song for Ted Browne Music, but the composer was

Lemuel Fowler, who sold the song to two publishers resulting in Ted Browne filing a law suit against the other publisher.

1934, Mar 5

San Antonio:

Art Gillham has been made a Texas Ranger and wears a badge. The governor conferred the honor in appreciation of school work and encouragement given youthful song writers.

1934, Mar 13

San Antonio: returned from PA

Act Gillham, the Whispering Pianist, is due back from Pitts-burgh today—clean from Pitts-burgh, as they say in wandeville.

1934, Mar 16

San Antonio: noting Art used Whispering as his radio theme. Art said he was at the apartment in San Francisco when the song was written, but did not claim to have contributed to it.

Art Gillham has been using "Whispering" as his theme song for 12 years but has never seen a copy of the song.

Art Gillham, the "whispering pianist," is back on KMOX, at 6 o'clock Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.



1934, Mar. 17

San Antonio: *Radio News Guide* picture and article notes that *Somebody Painted My Dream Castle Blue* and *Alone* have been submitted to publishers. Notes Art has completed *The Art Of Popular Piano Playing* to be released in next 20 days, a course for the beginner.



1934, Mar. 31 San Antonio: *The Light*: reports Art signed a five year contract with Victor and is making his first record this week. The five year contract produced 1 record.



1934, Mar. 31

San Antonio: recorded two titles for RCA Victor accompanied by Billy Smythe:

82740-1 Somebody Painted My Dream Castle Blue

Bluebird B-5454

82741-1 Alone (I'd Rather Be Alone)

Bluebird B-5454

1934, April 4 San Antonio: His 5 year contract lasted for one recording session.

Art Gillham, the Whispering Planist, has signed a five-year excitative contract with the victor phonograph people and is making his first record this week.

1934, Apr. 5

San Antonio: *The Light*. "Around The Plaza" column reports on recordings made in San Antonio noting Art Gillham recorded for Victor in the ballroom of the Texas Hotel.



1934, April 9 San Antonio WJRN

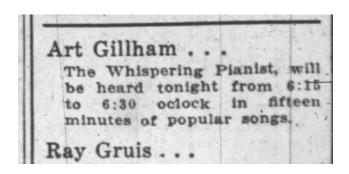
1934, April 25 San Antonio: WOAI

1934, April 27 St Louis KMOX

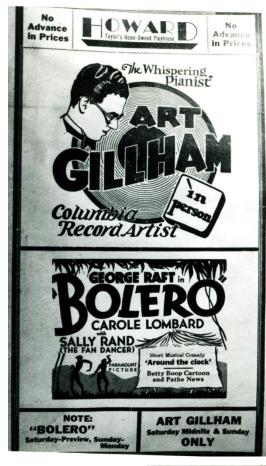
KNOX Engage Art Gillbam.
Art Gillbam is set, me y. Low.
His career has been colored, reachtime the simulate of success in both.
His career has been colored, reachtime the simulate of success in both.
The story of his rise from an accompaniat back in 1922, to farme as
in the small forms as on Broadway
Back in 1922 art Gillbam took a
success to the success of the success of the
success of the success of the success of the
many control of the success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
success of the
succes

Art Gillham, the "whispering pianist," is back in St. Louis, his home city, broadcasting daily at 9:30 p.m. over KMOX. He has been a radio star since 1922 as well as a vaudeville headliner, and has written a number of songs that have won popularity.

1934. April 29 Taylor, TX: Howard Theatre:



WJRN



1934, May 20 Bluebird Supplement lists B-5454.

1934, June St. Louis: *Star-Times*. WTMV Art is master of

ceremonies of "Everybody Sing" at 8:30 by remote

from the Majestic Theatre in East St. Louis. On

WTMV daily except Sundays at 9:30 am and 8:30 pm

for Deluxe Ice Cream

1934, June 1

SATURDAY ONLY, JUNE 2.—ART GILLHAM, in person on the stage, "The Whispering Pianist," Nationally known radio star and Columbia Recording Artists. See and Hear him now. On the stage 3:30 and 9:15 p. m. Admission, Matinee 11c and 17c, Niht 11c and 28c.



1934. June 5

McComb Strand Theatre

Art Gillham On Stage, Mighty Show On Screen

Art Gillham To Appear At Strand Monday

1934, June 22 Winona

> 10:30 o'clock, Joan Blondell in "I've Got Your Number."
> COMING JULY 3—Art Gillham, the whispering pianist—In Person. Matinee 2:30 and night 7:45.

1934, June 26

Yazoo City

play for the screen. On the stage in person at 5 and 9 p. m. will be Art Gillham, "The Whispering Pianist," in connection with the feature, "Paddy, The Next Best Thing."

1934, June 28

Indianola Regent Theatre

1934, July 3

Winona Dixie Theatre

1934, July 29

St Louis: KMOX

Art Gillham, who like Wendell Hall was among the earliest of one man shows in radio in his character of snows in radio in his character of "Old Pappy, the Whispering Planist," is supposed to weigh 360 pounds, Now Art confesses that in real life things are not that way. Recently Art spent a vacation on his Texas ranch trying to put of paper and pour for properly and paper. to put on about 60 pounds.

1934, June 30

Clarkesdale Globe Theatre

SPECIAL. SUNDAY MIDNIGHT SHOW ART GILLHAM THE WHISPERING PIAMON THE STAGE
IN PERSON AND PRATURE PICTURE Admission 11c and 25c PICKFORD Balcony 11c to All

STRAND

THURSDAY - ONE DAY ONLY! 10c and 15c

Thelma TODD

In the Merry Musical Melange 'You Made Me Love You'

Clark & McCullough in "FITS IN A FIDDLE"

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

KEN MAYNARD and His Wonder Horse TARZAN in "HONOR of the RANGE"

Monday-

Special Attraction In Person-On Stage ART GILLHAM

The Whispering Pianist" Celebrated Columbia Recording Artist and Nationally Known Radio Star.

In Addition To The Regular



Art Gillham in Perso learn that recovering takes and eks' snake You have very liber.

MON.-TUES. THE LITTLE TOY SOLDIER IS COVERED WITH RUST . Waters, Famous "Blues" Singer, in "Bubbling Over." Also Latest Fox News Monday Only At 4, 7 and 9 p. m. IN PERSON—ON STAGE ART GILLHAM "The Whispering Pianist" Celebrated Columbia Recording Artist and Nationally Known Radio Star. PICTURE PROGRAM NO ADVANCE IN PRICES

STRAND



gram as above, except Art Gillham.
Saturday, Matine and night, June
30th. ZASU PITTS, James Gleason,
Pert Kelton, El Brendel and Skeets
Gallagher in "THE MEANEST GAL
IN TOWN" See this and lose your
AUTOMAT See this and lose you're
EYE THE ARTHUR ARD POPEYE THE AGENT AUTOMAT
THE MEANEST GAL
THE SAGE OF T

1934, July 25

St Louis KMOX

Art Gillham, the "whispering pianist," is back on KMOX, at 6 o'clock Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

1934, Aug 1

St Louis: KMOX

6:00 KSD—JACK PEARL AS BARON MUNCHAUSEN; Cliff Hall and Peter Van Steedin's orchstra. KMOX—Art Gillham, pianist. KWK —Enric Madrigura's orchestra. WIL —Evening Echoes.





St Louis: starts new series on KMOX on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6:30 pm. Has completed a theatre tour of the South.



1934, Sept. 12 St. Louis. Letter of recommendation to other radio stations from WTMV.

1934, Oct 2 Chicago: WBBM





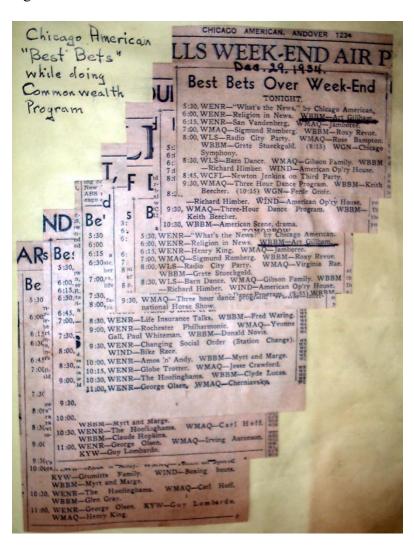
1934, Oct. 21 Chicago: *Tribune*. Art recently spent a vacation on his Texas ranch.

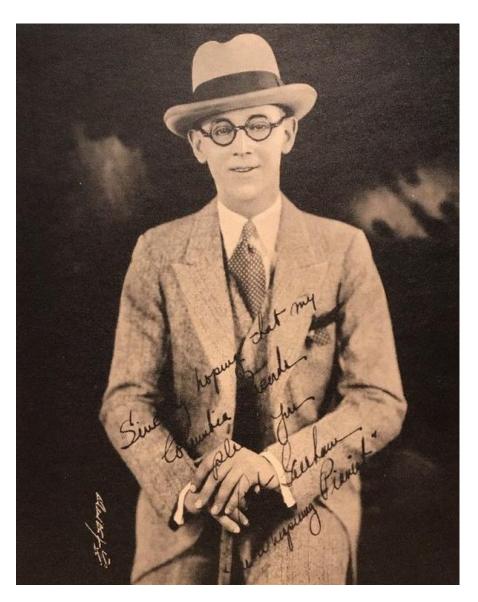
Art Gillham, who like Wendell Hall was among the earliest of one man shows in radio in his character of "Old Pappy, the Whispering Pianist," is supposed to weigh 360 pounds, Now Art confesses that in real life things are not that way. Recently Art spent a vacation on his Texas ranch trying to put on about 60 pounds.

1934, Oct 26 Chicago: WBBM

1934, Oct. 28 Chicago: *Tribune*. Begins series with WBBM on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 6:00 pm for Commonwealth Loan Co.

1934, Dec 29 Chicago WBBM















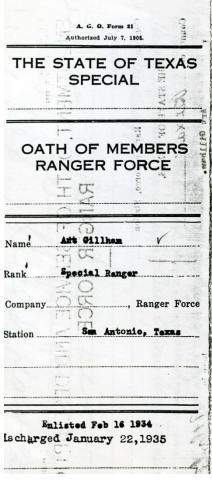
1935

ACTIVE BUT BARELY

1935, Jan. 22 Discharged from Texas Rangers.

1935, Feb. 3 New Orleans. "Radio Time" Series on WWL every night except Sunday at 9:45 pm.









1935, Feb 22

Sinythe's greatest hit was the famous Hesitation Blues' which starts off with that improved on

famous "Hesitation Blues" which starts off with linat immortal obstarts off with linat immortal obstarts and line in the line of the line with the line with the line with the line with the line and started an avalanche of lines songs which hasn't entirely subsided yet.

The formy thing about the "Hesitation Blues" was that their original conception was not not and low but sweet and meliancholy. A

The formy thing about the "Hesliation Blues" was that their origliation Blues" was that their origliast conception was not het and
low but sweet and melancholy. A
million Americans, for instance,
know the time of the recurrent
Yes trio of the chorus, but Smythe
Sin Gilliam are probably the only
men alive today who know that
the-tong actually had a verse and
who remember how it went. Although "Can I set you now, or
must I hes-t-tate?" was written in
1914, Smythe received a royally
check on the song as recently as
18 menths age, nearly trently years
after the thing was compused. The
check was for \$400, but anasmuch
is the rame publishing house holds
three others of his songs, he does
not know just what part of it was
royalties on the blues.

The song business has all gone to the devil, Satyline saidy observes. Today if a seng goes 20,000 copies it is a smash hit. There was when the publisher pumied 50,000 copies in the initial edition of any song, no matter how punk it was. Two Weolworth stores in Chicago alone used to have a standing order for 10,000 copies of any popular song, and there was a day when Gillbam and Smythe used to sell their songs



and get \$1000 advance regally checks without the publisher ever even hearing the tune. On my, those were the good old days.

As we mentioned in a fittle story on Gillham some time back, Gill-

As we mentioned in a little story on Cillham some time teach, Cillham and Southt wrote "I Ain't Got Nobody," a song which the whole nation was singing at one time. What we didn't mention was that Southe wrote asong called "I'll Be Hard to Stop It I Get a Sweetle Now," a little time which made history, more or less, when the constabulary arrested Sophie Tucker, the last of the I'd-hot mamas, for singing it in Boston.

1935, Apr. 11

Wheeling, WVA. On WWVA daily at 2:45 pm and Tuesday and Thursday at 11:45 pm.



1935, May

Chicago. WBBM Master of Ceremonies of two-hour talent show "Settin' Room Frolics" ran through February, 1936.

1935, May 18 Chicago: WBBM

```
Famous as a "Michigan Avenue hill-billy." Art Gillham, whispering pianist, is now heard on a new morning series over WBBM. Chicago, daily, except Sunday, from the care to get up that early. Art's easy song-and-piano style has been familiar to radio listeners since he made his debut on the air in 1922 following a successful career as leader of a small orchestra.
```

1935, May 26

Ogden UT KLO

```
8:30 Glen Gray and his Casa Lom Orchestra.

8:45 Reinald Werrenrath—Songs.

9:00 Hawaiian Meiodles—Moana Sere naders.

8:15 Victor Young's Orchestra.

KLO Program Hilites.

9:30 Art Gillham—Popular Songs.

9:45 J. C. Penney Optical Parlors Program.

10:00 Boswell Sisters—Popular Songs.

10:15 Don Bestor's Orchestra.

10:30 Woman's Club Reporter.

10:45 Violin and Cello Selections.

11:00 Dorsey Brothers' Orchestra.

11:15 Mildred Balley—Songs.

11:30 Leo Reisman's Orchestra.

11:31 Leo Reisman's Orchestra.

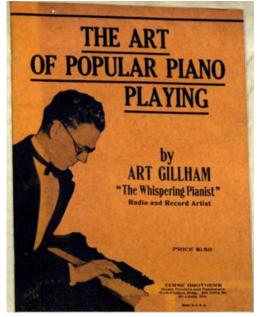
11:45 Marimba Melodles.

Police Patrols.

12:15 Dick Powell—Popular Songs.
```

Music Folio: Art Of Popular Piano Playing, Art Gillham, Zerse Brothers, 1935, Nov. 11

St Louis



1935, Nov 21 St Louis KMOX

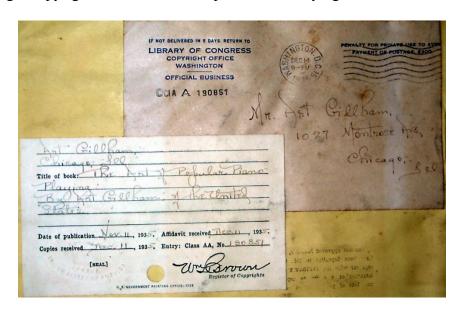
1935, Dec 4 St Louis KWK

—Breakfast Club.

9:00 KSD—PRESS NEWS; VAUGHN DE LEATH, contralto.

KMOX—Morning Moods. KWK—Variety program; Art Gillham.

9:10 PHI, Holland (11.73 meg.)—Santa 1935, Dec 14 Chicago: copyright received Art of Popular Piano Playing



1936

1936, Jan 1 Windsor CKLWArt begins the year in the Detroit-Windsor area with some trips to St Louis sponsored by Westinghouse and ice cream. Then he goes to Cincinnati where he plays on two stations. Articles in the San Antonio Light discuss the writing of Hesitation Blues and Billy Smythe.

1936, Jan 81936, Feb 41936, Feb 25Windsor: CKLWWindsor CKLW

1936, Feb 28 Windsor CKLW

1936, Mar 13 St Louis

appearance

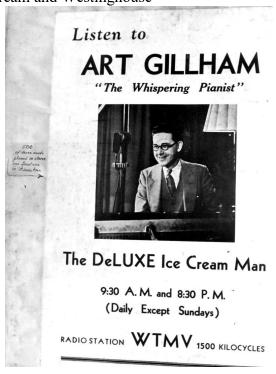
1936, April 13 San Antonio Light:

article



1936, April St Louis WTMV with Deluxe Ice Cream and Westinghouse





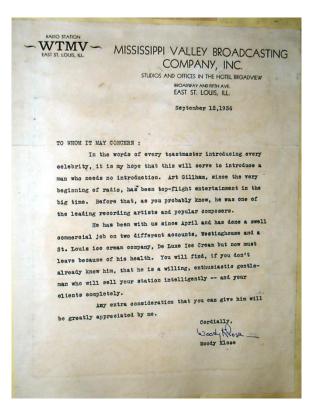
1936, May 17 St Louis: KSD

A new program series on KSD at 8:45 Monday nights, beginning tomorrow, will feature Art Gillham, pianist and singer, who for years has been widely popular with listeners.

1936, May 25	St Louis KSD	WTMV—(1600 Re.)	Reminiscent of the decade preceding 1929, when local theaters served as gathering places for the song-loving public who participated in weekly community sings conducted by
1936, June 5	St Louis WTMV	5:00—Dorothy Brefeld; singer. 5:30—Walkathon. 5:45—Rainbow Melodies. 5:55—Baseball scores.	Tom Terry and other favorite the- ater organists, is WTMV's new pro- gram, "Everybody Sing," which will go on the air for the first time to-
	Everybody Sing	6:00—Musical Package. 6:15—Organ Reveries. 6:30—Sport Shots.	night at 8:30.o'clock. The broad- cast will be carried by remote con- troi from the Majestic Theater in East St. Louis. Art Gillham, vet-
1936, June 22	St Louis WTMV	6:45—Crossroads of the Nation. 7:00—Radio Salutes. 7:15—Twilight Concert.	eran radio artist who has appeared as the "Whispering Pianist" on net- work and local shows for nearly fif-
1936, Aug 7	Milwaukee: 8:30	7:30—Junior Olympics. 7:45—Music Hall. 8:00—Musical Interlude. 8:15—George Hall's Orch. 8:30—Art Gillham, pianist. 9:15—Bing Crosby. 10:00—Review of the News. 10:15—Evening Salon. 10:30—Request Program.	teen years, will officiate as master of ceremonies. Following tonight's inauguration. "Everybody Sing" will be heard over WTMV every Wednesday night at 8:30. Barbara Stanwyck and Gene Raymond, with Ned Sparks and Helen Broderick supporting roles, will present scenes from their new picture. "The Bride Walks Out." as the preview feature of the "Holly-wood Hotel" broadcast over CBS-KMOX this evening at 7 o'clock.

Nous of Chang and Station

1936, Sept 12 St Louis WTMV letter of recommendation:



1936, Sept. 21

Cincinnati: On WLW, 9:15 Monday -Friday through January 1, 1937.

Wednesday's Programs			
1070-WTAM280	700-WLW-428	1030-CKLW-201	750-WJR-400
CLEVELAND	CINCINNATI	DETROIT	DETROIT
8:00—Malcolm Claire 8:15—Melodies 8:30—Cheerio 8:45—	Announced Larry and Sue Cheerio	Happy Jos Varietics	News Reauty Design
9:00—Chipso	Art Gillham .	Hollywood	Economies
9:15—Health, Home		Almanae	Party Line
9:30—Education		Hits, Encores.	Ma Perkins
0:45—Streamliners		Meledy	Bachelor Child

1936, Sept 22

Article notes Art's WLW programs recorded and

Played on other stations.

Air Notes

By PAT FREDERICKS.

WHISPERING PIANIST-One of WHISPERING PIANIST—One of radio's grand old men returns to the air over WTAX, through the rebroadcast arrangements with WLW, at 8 a. m. weekdays. Art Gillham, the "whispering planist," brings to listeners of this area more of the type of song, plano and patter for which he is justly famous.

1936, Oct 25

San Antonio Light:

Vhat Became Of 'Em: Art Gillham, once the greatest recording artist in the popular field, and who lived in San Antonio for two years, has turned up with a good contract over WLW in Cincipal Constitution. cinnati.

Billy Smythe, the song writer and radio man, has been in the pop-song business since his first big hit, Hesitation Blues," on which he still draws royalities, and he says the goofiest song title he ever heard of

"I'm Just Crazy About Maizie But Maizia Is Just Crazy!"

Sinythe's greatest hit was the J

famous "Hestation Blues" which starts off with that immortal observation: "I've never been to the haven, but I've been tod; etc." It was the most of the wind and the benediction of school long when they wrote and sold that tune and started an awalende of blues songs which hasn't entirely albeided with the "Hestation Blues" was that their originat conception was not het and low bit sweet and meliancholy. A million Americans, for instance, I know the tune of the recurrent the start of the control of the chorus, but Smythe a Ad Chilman are probably the only men alive today who know that their controllers with the though the sum of the probable of the chorus Smyths received a royalty on the song as recently as ouths ago, nearly twenty years the thing was composed. The was fer \$400, but insamed

. The song business has all gone to the devil, Smythe sadly observes. Today if a song goes 20,000 copies it is a smash hit. Time was when the publisher printed 50,000 copies in the initial edition of any song, no matter new punk it was. Two Woolworth stores in Chicago alone used to have a standing order for 10,000 copies of any popular song, and there was a day when Gilliam and Smythe used to sell their songs





and get \$1000 advance regalty checks without the publisher ever even hearing the tune. Oh my, those were the good old days. As we mentioned in a little story

on Gillham some time back, Gill-ham and Smythe wrote "I Ain't Got Nobody," a song which the whole nation was singing at one time. What we didn't mention was that Smythe wrote asong called "I'll Be Hard to Stop It I Get a Sweetle Now," a little tune which made his-tory, more or less, when the con-stabulary arrested Sophie Tucker, the last of the red-hot mamas, for singing it in Boston.

1936, Oct 30

Cincinnati Art is listed as appearing on WLW at 9:15 am and on WSAI at 9:15 pm. This appears as a regular doubling through December

1936, Nov 21

Springfield, IL: WTAX his records played as programming.

Art Gillham-Art Gillham, the whispering planist, will be heard from WTAX at 8:15 a. m., with a number of his old recorded releases. Mr. Gillham is one of radio's oldest stars and is known from coast to coast for his distinctive interpretations of the older melodies, many of which he himself composed.

Air Notes

By PAT FREDERICKS.

ART GILLHAM - The famous "Whispering Planist" will be heard from WTAX at 8:15 a. m. through the medium of some of his recorded releases. The quarter-hour program will be complete, as are those he airs from the nation station, sans, of course, the chatter and the daily modern proverb.

Return To Atlanta Early Television 1937

1937, Jan 1-6 Cincinnati WLW 9:15 am

1937, Jan. 14 Atlanta: Max Hall article. Art just in from Cincinnati, plans a program over a local

station.

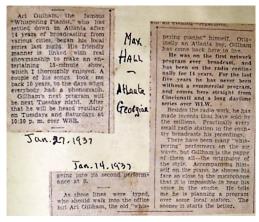
1937, Jan 24 Atlanta: WSB Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:30 pm



1937, Jan. 26 Atlanta: *Georgian*. Article & photo. Begins series on WSB every Tuesday and Saturday at 10:30 pm. Art has now made his home in Atlanta.

1937, Jan 26 Atlanta: *Journal* p 10, Ernest Rogers' column, with photo, article about beginning series with WSB at 10:30 pm.

1937, Jan. 27 Atlanta: favorable review of previous nights broadcast.



1937, Feb. 20 appears

Atlanta: Newspapers with photo. Art becomes representative of school. It Art continues in radio while also working for the business school.

1937, Feb 28

Atlanta:

ish Rebel forces. partment, records place the num-Spring Term of Atlanta's Accredited Business School, Southern Business College

Registration For Spring Term Now Proceeding At S. S. and B. U.

Enroll March 1 to 8, inclusive, for the Spring term of the Southern Shorthand & Business University, and thereby be ready for positions during the coming fall, the best time of the year in which the results employment.

to secure employment.

More than 50 students have accepted permanent positions dur-ing the past 60 days. Several have gone to work during the past

week.

One of the girls went to a splendid position last week at an initial salary of \$120.00 a month.

10,000 Positions.

The statement that 10,000 additional office employees will be required during 1937 on account of the Social Security Act is causing young people to prepare now for such positions. Many are selecting the Southern because it is the only accredited business cellege in enly accredited business college in

Mr. Art Gillham, the famous nationally known "whispering planist" of phonograph records and radio, has made connection with the Southern, and will aid the other five representatives in enrolling 1,000 high school graduates of 1937, for the Southern's business training. Mr. Gillham will give his entire day-time to this work and his nights to the radio. Phone for him to call and tell you all about the Southern. You would be deeply interested in what he would say to you about this long established business training school.

Founded 69 years with over 30,000 graduates in positions: a large and cultured faculty; best systems extant; accredited by the



All Papers Feb. 28.1937.

Going To Positions From Atlanta's Accredited School Southern Business School

The Men Who Are to Put 1,000 High School Graduates in The Southern in June and September.



W. ARNOLD, President





All Papers-Feb. 20.1937

1937, Mar. 7

Shorthand and Business University. WSB.

Atlanta. Newspapers with photo. Art becomes representative of Southern Gertrude worked there as well. At night on



1937, May 30

Atlanta. Newspapers with photo. Art is Field Representative for the school.

1937, Oct. 3

Atlanta: Field Director for Southern Business University. Article that growth has forced a move to larger quarters.

1937, Nov. 24

Atlanta: Newspapers with photo. Field Manager for school. 50 typewriters given away.

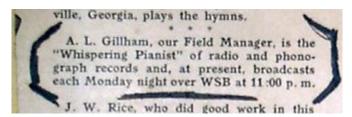


1938

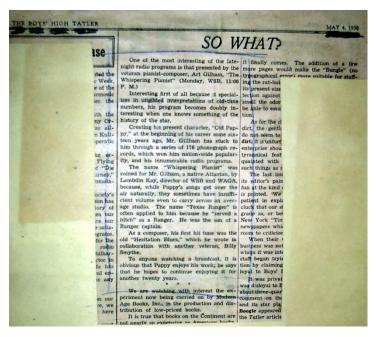
1938 Atlanta City Directory shows address as 1302 West Peachtree St, Apt 305.

1938, Feb. 13 Atlanta: Newspaper with photo re business school.

1938, May 1 Atlanta: Poster for school sent to 3000 high school graduates in 5 Southeastern states.



1938, May 4 Atlanta. Article in *Boy's High Tattler* about Art's programs on WSB.



1938, July 16 Article in Winnipeg Tribune about reporter going on vacation and finding records of Art, Gene Austin, Helen Kane and others.

1938, Aug 7 Atlanta



1938, Nov 13 Atlanta



1939 Atlanta City Directory shows address as 788 Greenwood Ave NE, Apt 12.

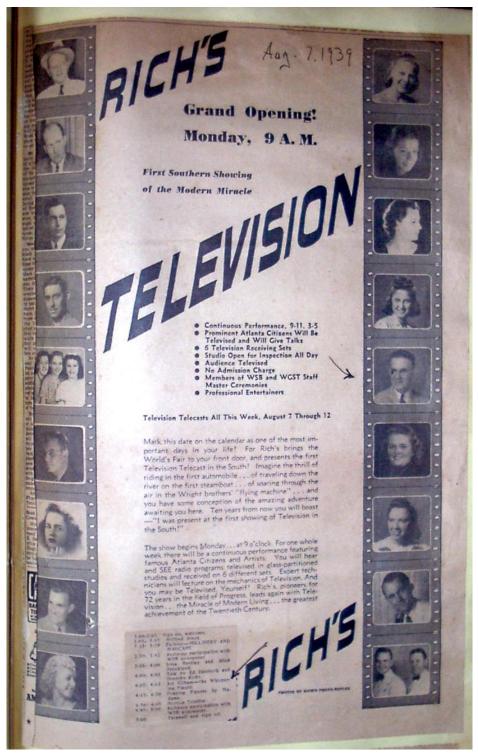
1939 Atlanta: broadcasting from WAGA

1939, April New York World's Fair - television publically demonstrated first.

1939 Televisiom demonstrated in Atlanta, Chicago, Pittsburgh and San Francisco.

1939, Aug. 1

Atlanta. Newspaper ad for First Southern Showing of Television at Rich's Department Store with photo of Art. RCA constructed a studio in Rich's tearoom with six television sets, the largest had a screen of 12.7 inches. TVs were not yet for sale. No TV stations were on the air in Atlanta until after World War II. Others participating in the demonstration were Governor E.D. Rivers, Mayor William B. Hartsfield, Atlanta Constitution editor Ralph McGill, Bobby Jones, and Bitsy Grant.



1939, Aug. 7-12 Atlanta. Art on demonstration of television daily from 4:05-4:15 pm. Over 40,000 people watched the demonstrations over the period. When television came to Atlanta, Art made several appearances on WAGA-TV on the Arthur Murray Dance Party on Saturday nights.

1939, Aug. 14 Atlanta. Newspaper ad for school with photo.

1939, Aug. 15 Atlanta. Newspaper ad with photo re Crichton's Business College.

1939, Sept. 9 Atlanta. Newspaper. On WAGA Well into series on Tuesday - Saturday at 7:15 pm; 2:15 pm on Sunday and 6:45 pm on Mondays.

1939, Sept. 21 Atlanta. Newspaper with photo. Art a sharpshooter in pistol firing contest at Fort McPherson.



1939, Oct 1

```
Waller, the Futs himself, is you around again this week and gets be to you with an old timer welli bet by you had forgotten. It is "Who'll m Take My Place (When I'm Gone)", as good, as we recall it, the Whisperie ing Planist, Art Gilliams once is turned out this tune for a couple is of hundred thousand records.
```

1939, Oct. 22	Atlanta. Newspaper with photo reports Art begins early morning "Yawn Patrol" on WAGA at 6:30 am as a disk jockey playing transcriptions and patter, no singing or playing piano.
1939, Nov. 13	Atlanta. Newspapers with photo. re school.
1939	Atlanta: retired from entertainment; became principal of Crichton's Business College

Home Recordings

1940-1949

1940

Atlanta, US Census shows completed 3 years college, was a salesman with income of \$1950/year. Home rent was \$35.00. Census shows birthplace as Georgia.

1942, Feb

Art's mother died in St Louis...

1941, Feb 6

San Antonio: article about Billy Smythe with mention of partner Art Gillham:

San Antonio's Billy Scrythe is one composer in the business who can bet out swing tunes without touching a piano,

Of course, a lot of swing times

sound as though the composer had never looked at a keyboard.

But Smythe can actually conceive a time, write it out in fell, words and moste, and never go near a

its con do it without as much as humming to himself. Moroover, when he hears it played later, it always sounds just like he woulds

Smythe, a member of the KMAC enter and production staff, does very little composing novadays, but over the course of the past 20 years he has published more than 300

Be was a puriner of Art Gillium, the famous Whitspering Piontal who, back in the middle '20's, was the top-seller enough recording artists. Gillium was the first of the in-thoste recording alogots and he helped plug and put over many a Smythe lift.

Thus, that collaboration was the

.Their first collaboration was the old classic blocs, "Heskation old dissile Blues". old classic blues, "Hestation Blues". You remember: "One I Get You Now, or Must I Heritate?" Sugitim still gets royalties off of that one

In the years that Smythe wrote so many songs he can't resumber than all. Oreasoundly he gets royaldies on tunes whose names he has forgotten.
At his peak, Southe frequently locked himself in hotel rucess with

pendis and score paper (cons plane) and came out with as many as three new tunes.

He doesn't always compose with-out the plane. He now eccessonally sits down at the keyboard, doedles arrand a bit, and bots out a tone just for the back of it.

He doesn't by to publish anymore with things like they are he figuses E isn't worth the trouble.

COMPOSER OF NOTE



ONCE LEADING U. S. SONGWRITER BILLY SMYTHE Composed "Hesitation Blues," selling in millions.

S. A. Agency Tops Insurance Field

The San Antonio agency of the local agency led all company agen-cles in delivered business for Jan-uary, O. P. Schnabel, local manager, has announced.

Boys' Club Marble Champion Named

Marble contests by the Boys' clubs Jefferson Standard Life Insurance have been completed and Julian company has received notice from Torres declared the grand champion company bearquarters that the marble player, Rey Pope, club sec-

refery, has nimbaneed.
Division witness in the confests
were Inc. Cruz, Ramon Benavides
and Torton.



1940, Nov 14	San Antonio	article about Billy Smythe and Art wi	riting Just Forget.
1941	Atlanta City	Directory shows address as	papa. 108 8 gm.
	788 Greenwo	ood Ave NE Apt 6.	Well, anyway, you'll be glad it to know that an old friend of I yours, Billy Smythe, is strictly it
1942	Atlanta City I	Directory shows address as	on the handwagon with an oldie of of his just released by Okeh rec- ords. The tune is "Just Forget"
	12 Pine Circl	e NE, Apt E, (Peachtree Hills).	and the band is Hank Penny, It's a a bill-billy version of a smalful a ballad that Smythe and his old a
1942, February	Art' mother A	Adah died in University City, MO.	ham, wrote years and years ago, and we'll predict that it will have
1946	Atlanta. Unk	nown when Art joined the Elks.	z very heavy sale in the same fields that "New San Antonio Bose" is now selling.
	He was "orga	nnist" at Atlanta's Buckhead Elks	"Just Porget" was written back in there 12 or so years ago when Oul- ham was one of the better selling
	Club. It was t	there that my father met Art. They	radio artists and Smythe was but-
	became fast f	friends and were together frequently	its ascendancy, and "Just Forget" sold in the fullions.
	On weekends	s at Art's apartment or our house.	single sitting by Smythe, who
		hrilled because she had been a fan	handles programs and some tal- ent over KMAC. Smythe loves
		e 1920s when she was in high school.	One afternoon he started out of Louisville, Ky., to look for some
		5	Happy Hunting Grounds, He was alone in his car and a
1946	Atlanta. Art's	s friend, Ab Luther, from	as though'it might harbor game. Along late in the day he came to an almost deserted old wayside han.
	Knoxville, pu	archased a home recording	down at a booth. He was a little fi tired, and he sort of rested while
	machine and began recording Art at leisure		the proprietor insisted on bringing thim a bottle of the bootles beer the place evidently festured.
			Smythe overhead a couple in s the next booth. The general s theme of their conversation was
	disk sides and	d later tape recorded segments.	that they were breaking up and the gal was trying to get over the philosophy that well, it was
	These have been converted into computer mp3		all over, so why not just forget it all? Smrthe liked the idea. It forget all about his hunting, and
	files. The number given is the number of the		went over to an all out-of-tune colwebbs plans at one end of the
	mp3 file. "PS" indicates a piano solo. Some		dance floor. He sat there and wrote every word and every note of "Just Forget." He and Gill-
	solos include some talking. Listing is in		ham (whose name also appears on the sung credit) were working tugether at the time and get com-
	approximate chronological order, exact order is		mon credits on all their stuff. They usually worked each other's ideas over but Gillbam wouldn't
	unknown.	,	"That's a good song like it is," he said.
	001	Whispering - My Gal Sal	Now that it is being revived from its tomb after 12 years, maybe if Gillham had something there.
	002	I'm Waiting For Ships That Never	
	003	I'm Losin' You	

1947

Atlanta: recording by Ab Luther:

004

To Each His Own - A Little Love, A Little Kiss (PS) She Said "No" 005

Things That Remind Me Of You

006

007 The Curse Of An Aching Heart (mostly PS brief singing)

- Near You (PS) 800
- 009 When You Were Sweet Sixteen (PS)

Gatlinburg, TN at Ab Luther's



Gatlinburg, TN, recording by Ab Luther 1947-1948

- 010 I Cried For You ("but if I had an ax")
- 011 She Was Poor, But She Was Honest
- 012 Angry
- 013 My Gal Sal - When Day Is Done (PS)
- 014 My Melancholy Baby ("who is this guy Iturbi?")
- 015 Whispering - Alexander's Ragtime Band (PS)
- 016 She Lived All Alone
- 017 Wee Wee Song

Louisville, TN, recording by Ab Luther 1947-1948

- 018 **Some Of These Days (PS)**
- 019 A Little Love, A Little Kiss (PS) ("for Dora")
- 020 **To Each His Own – Whispering** (PS) ("for Art Harris and Dora")

1949, Aug. 25

Atlanta, Ga, at Acoustic Equipment Company, on Fairchild equipment, six professionally recorded acetate disks as audition records for King Records, singing his songs from the 1920's with just his piano. He was encouraged to do this because Gene Austin had just begun recording again. He played older songs and did not yield to suggestions he do newer songs and piano solos:

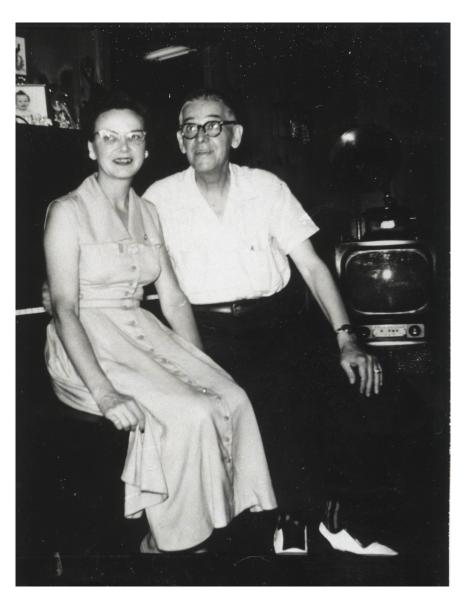
- 021 *Angry*
- 022 Thinking
- 023 All By Myself
- 024 Things That Remind Me Of You
- 025 I'm Waiting For Ships That Never Come In
- 026 I'm Losing You

Atlanta: had house, "Wee Haven", built on his 3.5 acres at 152 Burdett Rd., George Blau, Jr. architect. He refers to it on some recordings as "my house in the woods". Prior to the house being built the property had an outhouse and was use as a firing range.



1949,

Art and Gertrude



1949 Atlanta: Recording by Ab Luther

- 027 Sweet Georgia Brown Ballin' The Jack Sweet Ga Brown (PS)
- 028 **Jealous Louise Whispering** (PS)
- 029 A Shanty In Old Shanty Town
- 030 Thinking
- 031 All By Myself
- 032 When You Press Your Lips To Mine
- 033 Now I Won't Be Blue
- 034 *Whispering Maple Leaf Rag Cannonball Rag* (PS) (for Billy Bell's birthday)

1950-1954

1951-1952

Atlanta City Directory shows address as 152 Burdett Rd

1951, about

Atlanta. When I was old enough to understand that Art had been a popular entertainer before I was born, I learned he had none of his records. I began searching the Salvation Army and Goodwill stores and quickly found his records. For those I was unable to find I made mail searches of stores carrying collectors' records in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles and quickly completed my collection. I gave Art some of the records I found. Later I began searching for Art's piano rolls and bought a Steinway Duo-Art grand to play them. Mike Montgomery stayed on the lookout for me for rolls and sheet music written by Art or with a picture of Art. Art went into his attic and brought dowbn his scrapbook for me to see, then allowed me to borrow it and make photos of the pages. As I got older and able to get better cameras, he allowed other borrowings to improve the pictures.

1951, Mar. 24

Atlanta. Recording by Ab Luther:

- **Things That Remind Me Of You Whispering (at the Butlers')** 036
- 037 Whispering – Jealous – Whispering (PS)
- 038 My Melancholy Baby (for Joann)
- 039 Angry (for Joann – "the other side")
- 040 New Orleans (PS) ("now let's have a little Art Gillham music")
- 041 Louise (PS)
- 042 Whispering - To Each His Own- Whispering (PS) (for George Blau, III 15th birthday)
- 043 *Maple Leaf Rag – Nadja – Whispering* (PS) (for George Blau III, 15th birthday)
- Whispering Into Each Life Some Rain Must Fall (PS) ("for 044 Libby and Ab")
- 045 Let Me Call You Sweetheart - When You Were Sweet Sixteen (PS) (for Libby and Ab "the other side")
- Whispering The Rosary Whispering (PS) 046
- 047 Whispering - Broken Down Piano Player-Cannonball Rag -Simple Melody – Whispering (PS)

1952, Jan.

Atlanta: opened Representatives Center, 3105
Roswell Rd (now a park), in Buckhead section
of Atlanta, renting desk space to manufacturers'
representatives. The building has been torn down
and is now a small park.

1952, about

Atlanta: photo: Art visiting Blau household.

Atlanta: Now estimate of records sold has soared to 25-30 million! Clearly An overestimate. Plays for his own "amusement and my friends' amazement"







Final Radio Series

Atlanta: begins broadcasting over WQXI on Sunday afternoons, sponsored by 1952, Sept. Contour Chair Lounge.

1952 Atlanta: 6 guest appearances on WAGA-TV, "Arthur Murray Dance Party."

1952 Atlanta: was featured on a segment of NBC radio's "Monitor" program

Atlanta: sketch published about him in "The Finger Bowl" of Buckhead Elks Club. 1952, Oct.



Candid study by our staff artist of Organist Gillham at work. bucks a year and he's worth it. "Page Mr. Petrillo," pleaz.

A stormy night, 12:46 a.m., January 1, 1895-Bugscuffle, Ga. (pronounced the same, before or after imbibing) the new year had arrived, full of hope and Arthur Lewis Gillham was born—hopeless.—In an ually short time Art exhibited musical inclinations by his masterful playing on the linoleum.

Time marched on. Arthur was marched in to St. Louis, Mo., where to the chagrin of all the educators, his education, from public school to St. Louis University, was finally finished—so were his teachers.

At the tender age of 7 years, little Artie took up music and all the neighbors also took up and moved from the vicinity of the Gillham residence. When Brother Gillham entered high school, he organized a band and thereafter concentrated on a musical career. His success, as a stage, recording and radio artist, was outstanding. The sale of his records ranked with Ted Lewis and Eddie Cantor. Many of his compositions are still popular, one of the most successful being the "Hesitation

Shortly after WSB went on the air, Lambdin Kay engaged Arthur for a radio program. Art suffered such an attack of mike fright, he was unable to raise his voice above a whisper and that's how he became the famous-or infamous as the case may be-"Whispering Pianist"-the lucky stiff. (This distortion of fact is commonly known as literary license)

In 1932 The Whispering Pianist was broadcasting in the Windy City and met his fate, the pretty petite Gertrude Sheldon,

a successful advertising executive. With the love bug gnawing on him, Art did a lot of fast talking and in three months, a Gillham-Sheldon merger was consumated via the marriage route.

Arthur managed to work in a hitch in the armed forces, as well as, a year with the Texas Rangers. The year with the Rangers, was to help our boy reduce over-weight—He didn't but his horse certainly

Just as the chickens come home to roost, so did the Gillhams. On their return to Atlanta, Ole Pappy Gillham spent 14 years (Darlin' you are growing old) as principal of a business college. Presently Gilly is Proprietor, Manager, Notary Public and Tax Consultant, of the Representatives' Center in Buckhead—In fact 6 days a week what he is there-IS; and what he isn't-Ain't. Just to keep from wasting the Sab-bath, at 1 p.m. each Sunday the Old Maestro is on the air over WQXI. If you enjoy the melodies of those good old days—and who doesn't?—it's the sweetest, as well as, shortest quarter hour on radio. Listen to Art Gillham and you will learn that a com-mercial is the 30 minutes preceding and 30 minutes after a 15 minute program.

In his spare time, Arthur, now the Squire of North Fulton Hills, built an attractive home. Of course he had just a little helpan architect, four engineers and seventeen contractors, who with their crews, co pleted the residence at 152 Burdett Rd., N.W.

Arthur's hobbies are piano playing, en tertaining friends, puttering around his 3 acres, building bridges and thawing out frozen water wells. He is an ardent collector of rare prints and his den is a veritable education-one wall is entirely covered with citations and certificates, awarded for public services rendered—and on the "UD-DER HAND"—the opposite wall is filled with works of Art—(not Art Gillham) that are an inspiration to all.

Chestnuts Dropped Under The **Spreading Antlers**

Brother John Dortch says, "when you're young you do a lot of wishful thinking but as you grow older, you do a lot of thoughtful wishing.

America is the country where they lock up the Juries and let the accused out.

Brother John Phelps explains that "housebroken" once applied to well trained cats and dogs but now, it applies to anyone buying a house at prevailing prices

The clever girl who knows all the answers

1953, July 11 Louisville, TN. Recording by Ab Luther on reel to reel tape

> 048 Prisoner's Song-It's A Sin To Tell A Lie-Frankie & Johnny (PS)

049 Melancholy Baby (fragment) - My Gal Sal (PS)

- 050 Now I Won't Be Blue 051 To Whom It May Concern Angry ("gutter music") 052 053 Dragging My Heart Around 054 If We Can't Be The Same Old Sweethearts 055 Tuck Me To Sleep In My Old 'Tucky Home 056 Stardust (acetate disk) (PS) (for George Blau III) 057 Twelfth Street Rag (PS) (acetate disk) (for big George and Elese)
- Atlanta: made audition tape recording for RCA Victor with a small combo with Curly Hicks on guitar. Again he plays his songs from the 1920s.
 - 058 I'm Waiting For Ships That Never Come In
 - 059 Thinking
 - 060s Things That Remind Me Of You
 - 061 So Tired
 - 062 Now I Won't Be Blue
 - 063 If We Can't Be The Same Old Sweethearts
 - 064 When I Lost You
 - 065 Who'll Take My Place

1953,

1953, Sept.

Atlanta: had Gene Austin as guest on his WQXI radio program. Gene Austin was playing at the Paradise Room of the Henry Grady Hotel. I was doing a music column for my high school newspaper. I asked Gene for an interview. Gene invited me to have lunch with him. We were joined by then local artist Dick Van Dyke of the Merry Mutes. I suggested Gene appear on Art's radio program. They both agreed. Art let Gene do all of the singing. They discussed their careers with Columbia and Victor and recalled how they would discuss with each other the songs they were recording to try to void recording the same songs. They also discussed how Victor tried to make Art out as an imitator of Jack Smith, but of course Art was doing the "whispering" style before Smith and had the billing as the Whispering Pianist long before Smith began recording.



Art and Gene at the piano at WQXI.

Gene is standing. His wife is seated on left, next to Gertrude Gillham.

Some high schoolers.

Heart Attacks Ends 30 Year Radio Career

1953 Atlanta: suffered heart attack, hospitalized at Emory University Hospital. 1954 Louisville, TN: Recording by Ab Luther: 066 Lazy River - Now I Won't Be Blue (PS) 067 Curse of an Aching Heart It's A Sin To Tell A Lie 068 069 I Miss You Most Of All 070 Whistling Boogie (PS) 071 You May Be Lonesome (states it was the first electrical recording) Stardust-Lazy River-Now I Won't Be Blue (can't recall tune) (PS) 072 073 *New Orleans – Nadja* (PS) 074 *Maple Leaf Rag – Angry* (PS, sings *Angry*) 075 Some Of These Days 076 Whispering (PS) 077 New Orleans (PS) 078 **Some Of These Days (PS)** 079 Darktown Strutters Ball (PS) 080 My Gal Sal (PS) 081 I Can't Give You Anything But Love (PS) 082 Alexander's Ragtime Band (PS) 1954, Atlanta. Recording by Ab Luther 083 My Heart Cries Out For You (disk) (PS) 084 **Tennessee Waltz** (disk) (PS) (played in various rhythms) 085 Story of son Hall taking accordion lessons, condoms, farm boy 1954, Dec. 20 Atlanta. Recordings made by George Blau at Art's home. Art played straight through with Whispering as a transition from song to song. He had no list of what to play, just played songs as they came to him. There was a break before Lazy All are piano solo - no vocals or talk. They were recorded on an RCA home tape recorder. 086 Whispering - A Shanty In Old Shanty Town 087 Whispering - It's A Sin To Tell A Lie 088 Whispering - Sweetheart Of All My Dreams

Whispering - If I Could Be With You

Whispering - I Never Knew

089

090

- 091 Whispering Angry
- 092 Whispering My Gal Sal
- 093 Whispering Poor Butterfly
- 094 Whispering Margie
- 095 Whispering Some Of These Days
- 096 Whispering Ida
- 097 Whispering Let Me Call You Sweetheart
- 098 Whispering When You Wore A Tulip Whispering
- 099 Lazy River
- 100 Whispering When Day Is Done
- Whispering Meet Me Tonight In Dreamland
- 102 Whispering Melody Of Love
- Whispering If We Can't Be The Same Old Sweethearts
- 104 Whispering Jealous
- 105 Whispering Stardust
- 106 Whispering When You Were Sweet Sixteen
- 107 Whispering I'm Nobody's Baby
- 108 Whispering Just A Melody
- 109 Whispering When I Lost You
- 110 Whispering Hesitation Blues
- Whispering I'm Getting Sentimental Over You
- 112 Whispering Crying Again
- 113 Whispering Just Forget
- 114 Whispering Mean Blues
- 115 Whispering Avalon
- 116 Whispering Hawaiian Butterfly
- 117 Whispering Margie Whispering

1955, March 11 In San Antonio Billy Smythe takes on TV

W. P. "Billy" Smythe putting away his fishing tackle and coming out of his Pt. Aransas retirement to lend a hand here with the launching of the new KCOR-TV station. The tower soon will start going up on Martinez st. in the King William area, but it will probably be May before there are any test patterns.

FAVORITE PIONEER RECORDING ARTISTS

Conducted By JIM WALSH

Art Gillham "The Whispering Pianist"

By JIM WALSH

1957, Sept

(NOTE: This article is dedicated to Dennis Deas of Gracewood, Ga., who made it possible for me to write it).

Recently I had an acidulous discussion with a veteran record dealer concerning the younger sets' passion for the "singing" of such performers as Elvis Presley.

The dealer shook his head resignedly. "I'm like you," he said. "I can't understand what they see in those characters. But getting crushes on recording artists and show business personalities is nothing new. After all, middle-aged women have acted just as silly as the kids, but about Liberace. And before Presley there were as silly as the kids, but about Liberace. And before Presley there were
Johnnie Ray, Sinatra and Crosby, and
going even farther back, we had
Rudy Vallee, Gene Austin and Art
Gillham. Fifty years ago women
were writing mash notes to Billy
Murray and Henry Burr, and Ada
Jones was receiving dozens of written
proposals from men who were smitproposals from men who were smitten by her records."

"That's true," I agreed, "and your mention of Murray and Burr reminds me of something. I learned not long since that about 30 years ago Murray, Burr and the other members of the Eight Famous Victor Artists made a sound film for Metro, Goldwyn and Meyer called 'Eight Victor Art-ists at the Club.' I've been trying to get a copy for my phonograph curio collection, but have learned that although the negative has been preserved the sound, recorded on a separate disc, has been lost. It's exasperating."

The dealer looked thoughtful a moment, then smiled. "Did I ever tell you," he asked, "about the girl who had a crush on "The Whispering Pianist," Art Gillham? She lived a few miles out of town and came in one summer morning with several other girls who were going some-where. They trooped into my store, and the Gillham fan told them she'd and the Gillham fan told them she'd decided she didn't want to go any farther but would stay and 'play a record.' They could come by for her on their way home. Well, she played a record, all right She asked for a sirupy thing called 'I Love You-I Love You-I Love You, Sweetheart READ AND APPROVED By ART GILLHAM

June 20, 1957

Dear Jim:

Dear Jim:

Am rushing this back to you. I think it's good. You have done a swell job. I corrected one or two spots and added the five best sellers of all my records—hope that's okay.

I wonder if I will be able to get about six copies of the HOBBIES issue that will have this article in it. I have a few "cotton picking" relatives who would want a copy. If you get down this way be sure to contact me at once, and good luck. Sincerely,

ART GILLHAM

of All My Dreams' and started playof All My Dreams' and started playing it about 9 o'clock. Once in a while she came out for a drink of water, but she stayed in that airtight booth until 2:30, playing that same record over and over. I thought I'd go nuts. When her friends mercifully rescued me, she was pale but happy, and left without saying anything about buying the record. No,

thing about buying the record. No, they're no worse now than they were in 1929. By the way, whatever happened to old Art Gillham?"

"I don't know," I replied. "He is the only crooner whose records I can listen to with unqualified pleasure. Most of the others give me the willies, but Art had a pleasant tenor voice. Although it wasn't of operatic caliber, at least it wasn't a husky, one-note baritone, and his brilliant piano playing made his records sparkle. I liked him better in his comedy numbers than the ballads and tear-jerkers, but I've never been fond of musical sentimentality. As to what became of him, I've made repeated of musical sentimentality. As to what became of him, I've made repeated efforts to find out over the past ten years, without any luck. I even wrote to Station WSM at Nashville, with which he used to be associated, but received a brief reply that they had no information concerning him. I'd no information concerning him. I'd really like to know what's become of the old boy, because I liked him a lot."

As so often happens, my lack of information was relieved in an unexpected way. The postmaster at Gracewood, Ga, Dennis Deas, wrote to compliment me on my HOBBIES article about Gene Austin. He then said he wished I would do one on

Art Gillham and mentioned that the erstwhile "Whispering Pianist" lived in Atlanta, Ga., and was in the office in Atlanta, Ga., and was in the office space rental business. He even gave me Art's address. This resulted in my writing to Gillham and, to my surprise, obtaining a prompt reply. (Most singers are notoriously slow correspondents, if they answer mail at all.) We have since exchanged several other letters, and I have been impressed by the warmth and humor of Art's personality, as well as the invariable promptness of his answers. I have been sorry to learn his health I have been sorry to learn his health could be better, but hope it will steadily improve.

II. Art Gillham's First Letter

II. Art Gillham's First Letter
May 13, 1957. Dear Jim: Thanks for
your interest in my work, and I appreciate your letter. I am enclosing
a sketch that will tell a little of
what I have done in my 62 years, and
a picture taken of me over 30 years
ago when I was recording for Columbia, for whom I made about 60
records in a little over eight years.
I have been under the weather for
the past six months, but am gradually coming out of it, and have been on
the job... for about a month.
I expect to see Dennis Deas in July
in Augusta, Ga., where I will try to
be for the Legion State Convention,
if I am able...

Be free to write anything you wish
about me in your articles. Let me
hear from you again, and once more,
thanks for your interest in my corny
recordings. When I hear the beautiful jobs that are on the market now,
I just don't tell anyone that I made
records back in the dark ages; before
electrical recording. By the way, I
did make the first released electrical
yly recorded record, No, 328-D. for Columbia in November, 1923. The title
was (one of my own songs), "You
May Be Lonesome But You'll Be
Lonesome Alone." Gosh, that was a
long time ago!

III. Art's Thumb-Nail Biography

The "thumb-nail autobiography" which the singer enclosed with his letter says that his parents came to Georgia from Texas three years because of January 1, 1895. "thumb - nail autobiography" Georgia from Texas three years before he was born on January 1, 1895. They moved to St. Louis in 1904, and he attended Wyman School, Central High School and St. Louis University. Art was 19 when he left school to enter orchestra work. He served in the Army during World War I, then returned to music and entered radio at the Drake Hotel Radio Station in Chicago. That was in 1922. He was on the first network show the night President Coolidge was elected, November 4, 1924. Will Rogers was master of ceremonies. Others taking

Might Freshert Coolings was elected, November 4, 1924. Will Rogers was master of ceremonies. Others taking part were the Joseph Knecht Orchestra, the Shannon Four, Wendell Hall, and the late Carson Robison, who died early this year.

The "Whispering Pianist" identification was bestowed on Gillham by Lambdin Kav at WSB, Atlanta, in February, 1924, while he was touring and appearing at radio stations. He was a featured, exclusive Columbia recording artist from 1924 to 1931, and recorded about 40 of his own compositions Art estimates some 40,000,000 of his records were sold. In 1932 he began working at WBBM in Chicago, and at some time

WBBM in Chicago, and at some time around this period I heard an announcer at WSM play a number requested by the singer, whom he

jokingly referred to as "Art Gillham, jokingly referred to as "Art Gillnam, just a broken-down old piano player in Chicago." (Art frequently called himself "a broken-down old piano player.") While at WBBM he met

player.") While at WBBM he met and married Gertrude Sheldon in October, 1932, and they will celebrate their 25th anniversary this October. In. January, 1937, Gillham left radio and returned to Atlanta. For 15 years he served as principal of Crichton's Business College, but left to open his own business, "The Representative's Center." at 3105 Roswell to open his own business, "The Representative's Center," at 3105 Roswell Road, N. E. Summing up, Art said: "Gertrude and I have 3 ½ acres

out of Atlanta, a house in the middle of them that we built at 152 Burdett Road, N. W. I have done numerous radio programs and TV shows on local stations since I have been in Atlanta, but just as a 'side-line' or for advertisement for my own business. I have had two attacks of coronary thrombosis, and cannot use my arms too well to play piano very long at a time, so am not active in music any more."

IV. More Letters from Art When I replied to thank Art for his informative letter (his coopera-tion has made this one of the easiest HOBBIES articles I have ever written), I questioned his statement that he made that first electrically recorded Columbia record in November, 1923, and pointed out it wasn't issued until the spring of 1925. I asked if he didn't mean November, 1924. I also said I don't admire most of today's vocal recordings, because the engineers make them sound any way they wish, changing a man with a tinny little voice into a Tamagno, and that most of the time the voice coming from the record has little resemblance to the original. On May

20, Art replied:

20, Art replied:

Dear Jim: Well. you caused Old Pappy a lot of thinking to no purpose, so I went up into the attic and dug up the old scrap book—because when you get over 60 and try to remember dates of 30 to 35 years ago happenings, you sort of kinda get fouled up. And I was really fouled up on the date of the time of 328-D.

I made that record in November, 1924, and your dates are right, I came into New York about the first of November for the network show and then stayed for recording ten sides for Columbia.

Just goes to show you how forgetful an old man can get—1924 was a year of firsts for me. Lambdin Kay, the "Little Colonel" of WSB, gave me the tab of "The Whispering Planist" in February when I spent a week at the station, and I used it from then on; worked the first network program in November, and made Columbia's first electric recording in November.

Columbia's first electric recording in November.

I made ten sides for Gennett Records at Richmond, Ind., in 1923, of which they released four; made four sides for Pathe Records in New York, in 1924, all released, and made six sides for OkeH Records in New York, in 1924, all released, before I signed an exclusive agreement for Columbia Records, My first release for Columbia was "How Do You Do, Everybody?" on one side, and the other side was "Way Out West in Kansas."

I **gree with you on some of these

Kansas."

I agree with you on some of these modern recordings, but the microphone certainly was a blessing for me, when I could work so softly that I could not be heard in the studio, yet it came out as clear and distinct

as it did. Thanks again for your interest and let me hear from you at any time. Sincerely, ART.

In my next letter, I asked Art if he could give me a complete list of his Gennett, Pathe and OKeH records, to supplement the one I had made of his Columbia discs. I mentioned, too, that his record of "How's Your Folks and My Folks Down in Norfolk Town?" (his only Columbia on which he didn't sing both sides) was one of my favorites, but that any Virginian could tell he wasn't a native of the Old Dominion because he pronounced Norfolk as "Nor-fork," instead of "Naw-f'k," as Virginians do. I also asked why on one of his 1931 Columbias, "When They Changed My Name to a Number" - a piece of sentimental tripe that was probably his worst record - somebody named Alex Hill played the piano accompanihis Gennett, Pathe and OkeH records, Alex Hill played the piano accompaniment, instead of its being by Art himself. With the letter I enclosed a list of his Columbia records (printed at the end of this article) and asked him to check it.

With his unfailing promptness, Art replied on May 24:

Art renlied on Mav 24:

Dear Jim: Thanks for your letter and list of the 22nd. I find you have about seven records listed that I had forgotten about—damn, I'm getting old, But there were two more that you did not have listed namely, 2349D—To Whom It May Concern/Gazing at the Stars, and 1319D—Silver Haired Sweetheart/Who Gives You All Your Kisses? And I'm afraid that about covers the Columbia releases. Here is some inside dope on some of them. . . Due to the acceptance and big sale on 328D, Frank Walker, the recording manager for Columbia, wished to get another record on sale quick, and had only one more side that I had recorded. With me on the West Coast and unable to get to

wished to get another record on sale quick, and had only one more side that I had recorded. With me on the West Coast and unable to get to New York at once, he backed Van and Schenk on "Norfolk," the only record where I was not on both sides. And about Norfolk—I rulned three masters when recording this one (as I was from the "Deep Sooth"), because Walker insisted on my putting the "r's" in and that took plenty of practice.

Red Nichols' Band was the Lanin's Red Heads on "Five Foot Two, Eyes of Blue." He and I were good friends, and he asked Walker to have me do a vocal on his record. I did, and it did the sales no good. That was the only dance record for which I sang the vocal.

Both sides of "When They Changed My Name to a Number" were tunes that Walker wanted me to record SURE, and as I had no time to get up on the plano part and get them on wax, we used a publisher's plano player to get them out quick. (And they both stunk). You see, I was doing a lot of personal appearances and theater dates at the time, and I got away for only two or three days or week at most to run into New York for recording.

I do not recall any of the numbers I recorded for Gennett, and the only Ones I remember for Pathe and OkeH are "How Do You Do?" and "The Deacon Told Me I Was Good." Sorry to hear about Jimmy Dorsey's illness (and subsequent death). He and Tommy were mighty nice to me back in the early "20's, when I was just getting started.

In all my record, theater, songs and personal appearance dates, I at no time had an agent. I paid no one commissions on my work, as I handled all my own business. When I went into New York with recording on my mind, after making about 50 radio stations around the country as a traveling radio artist, I sent a telegram to each recording manager of the various New York companies, telling them I was on WJZ for one

week at noon and at 9 o'clock at night, and as 1 had a radio following throughout the country they should be interested in my record sales, if I made records. The only companies that responded to the telegrams were Pathe, then OkeH, then Columbia—so I made records. That was also in 1924.

Thanks again for your interest, and I am waiting to see the sketch you are writing about "Old Pappy." I hope we can get together one of these days.

And so, up to this moment, stand

And so, up to this moment, stands my correspondence with Art Gillham. But I hope to keep hearing occasionally from "The Whispering Pianist."

V. The Gillham Records
I do not intend to discuss Art
Gillham's recordings in detail, but shall call attention to some I consider among the best. Too, there are some interesting comments scattered through the Columbia supplements in which his records are reviewed. A majority of the records are sung to his own piano accompaniments, but a fair number have

an orchestral background, identified in some instances as by his "South-land Syncopators" with Art at the piano. All are electrically recorded

except four. (See the accompanying

The first Gillham record, issued late in 1924, coupled, as he has already mentioned, "How Do You Do?" (which became best known as the theme song of Billy Jones and Ernest Hare) and "Way Out West in Kansas." The acoustic recording is retained. is rather poor, but the horn method is rather poor, but the horn method under no circumstances would have done justice to Art's light tenor voice. Next in order was a slightly risque but amusing composition of Art's own, "The Deacon Told Me I Was Good," coupled with "Carolina Blues." The first electric has already been identified as 328D.

Art says his biggest selling records were, "You May Be Lonesome". "So Tired", "Things that Remind Me of You", "Thinking", and the top one "Waiting for Ships that Never Come

Now, let's look at the supplements. In August, 1925, there was a review of No. 387, doubling "Take 'Em to the Door," by Van and Schenk, with "How's Your Folks and My Folks?" Of the Gillham side, the supplement

The coupling is by the The Whispering Planist (Art Gillham), the cross-country radio tourist, whose friendly, intimate way of whispering plis songs has made him popular with Columbia buyers who have heard his previous records.

November: 1925:
The Whispering Planist (Art Gillham) is becoming more popular every day. A recent letter from him—he is touring the radio stations of the Middle West—says he is getting requests to sing more ballads. Here are two hallads ("So That's the Kind of a Girl You Are" and "Feelin" Kind O' Blue") that are sung in a way that clearly indicates why he is popular as a ballad singer.

January, 1926, brought some had

January, 1926, brought some bad news, but with a word of reassur-ance. to Art's fans:

nce. to Art's fans:
A short time after Art Gillham . . . recorded "I'm Sitting On Top of the World." he accidentally shot himself and has been confined to the hospital since. Recent word from him, however, tells us that he is improving and expects to be back "on the air" in a short time.

March, 1926, brought two doublefaced Gillham records, No. 529D and 550D, with this comment:

The Whispering Pianist is one of the most sought-after artists on the air. He is in constant demand throughout the country, and he attributes his popularity to the intimate way he delivers his entertainment. Whether he is singing a ballad, a blues or a comedy number, Art injects his personality in a way that makes it "different."

As an example of the way Art infused personality into his records, may be mentioned his characteristic way of talking to his hands and telling them to "play it pretty for the folks" or his simply saying, "play it, fingers!" This dry humor added to the humor test has the transfer or the same and the transfer of the same and the transfer or the same are the same and the same are th much to the entertainment quality of his records.

if his records,
June, 1926:

Art Gillham has added to his titles that of "The Modern Minstrel of the air," because of his frequent touring of radio stations. The Whispering Pianist presents "In Your Green Hat" in an entirely different style than that usually used for such songs. His intimate, conversational tone adds a touch that is not usually found in the work of other artists. October, 1926:

The Whispering Love-Maker—Art Gillham. This record makes Art the world's champion indoor and outdoor, daylight and after dark whispering love maker. Art made a special trip to Columbia's New York Recording laboratories to get "Tenderly" and "Thinking" off his mind and on to the wax. The last named required a lot of effort on Art's part.

By this time, a new Gillham record almost invariably came first in the monthly lists of popular numbers, indicating Art had become Columbia's biggest selling singer. He usually biggest selling singer. He usually managed to select song titles that the record buying public would almost automatically associate with him, and frequently the two sides of a record "ran together" so naturally they could be read as one title and the record that they could be read as one title and the record that they could be read as one title. sometimes with amusing results. Examples: "Hot Tamale Molly, Can't ampies: "Hot Tamale Molly, Can't Your Friend Get a Friend for Me?" and "I Can't Keep You Out of My Dreams--Hello, Little Girl of My Dreams". Also, "I Don't Want to Forget Broken Hearted Sue," and "Don't Forget the Pal You Left at Home Twiddling My Thumbs."

Home Twiddling My Thumbs."

Incidentally, Columbia a l w a y s seemed uncertain as to how Gillham's records should be listed in the yearly catalogs. Prior to 1929 they were referred to as by The Whispering Pianist (Art Gillham.) If you looked up Art Gillham in the 1929 and 1930 catalogs you were told: "See Whispering Pianist." But in 1931 if you turned to "Whispering Pianist," you were instructed to "See Art Gillham"!
Continuing with the supplements.

Continuing with the supplements, in June, 1927, we find the following:

When the Whispering Pianist (Art Gillham) sings "I'm Only Another To You," thousands of girls who have heard him on Columbia New Process Records, the air and the stage will

rise to object. Any girl who has ever listened to Art's whisper will never forget it. "I'm Drifting Back to Dreamland" is another appealing se-lection by this popular artist.

"Drifting Back to Dreamland" was also a surprising selection. When I obtained a second-hand copy many years after the record was made I put it on expecting to hear a few bars of piano introduction, after which Art would sing. But he never did uplift his voice. The disc is a delightful piano solo all the way through, beginning with shimmering effects resembling the wail of Hawaiian guitars, then gradually stepping up the tempo until a breakneck speed is reached, after which, for the conclusion, it subsides to waltz time. Toward the end of his Columbia career, Art made another "Dreamland" record. It is one of the few of his I don't have, but I assume it is a vocal.

In the July, 1927 supplement:

And now The Whispering Pianist... picks "Broken Hearted" as The vehicle to express his feelings. Perhaps Art really is broken hearted—because there are no more worlds for him to conquer. He's a hit on the stage, a sensation on the radio, and a favorite on Columbia New Process Records.

In August:

The Whispering Pianist . . . presents a new style of interpretation in "I Crave You," which is coupled with "Tonight You Belong To Me," In the first named selection, Art introduces to Columbia's record audience his Southland Syncopators, As Gillham whispers the words, his orchestra keeps in perfect rhythm and fills in every space behind him.

So much for the supplements. Art Gillham's success continued as long as the sale of records held up. He not only recorded the latest ballads and comedy numbers, but also showed a fondness for reviving such old-timers as "Chinatown, My Chinatown," "Just for Tonight" and "On the Alamo." They were all deftly sung and accompanied.

As has often been related, the world-wide depression that began in October, 1929, almost put an end to the record business. Sales in 1930 were not half of what they had been in 1929, and those for 1931 probably as the sale of records held up.

were not half of what they had been in 1929, and those for 1931 probably were not half of 1930. As for 1932, that was the worst year in the industry's history. It is estimated that Columbia's entire record sales didn't reach 250,000 copies for that entire vear.

However, "The Whispering Pianist" continued to whisper on "New Process" Columbias for almost two Process" Columbias for almost two years after the depression began, and made some of his best records during that period. Their sales, naturally, were small. His last, 2506D, was issued in September, 1931. Columbia passed under new control and late in 1932, as part of a desperate effort to restore some semblance of sales, began putting out a new "Royal Blue" record. The 1933 catalog was a thin, poorly printed pamphlet, but it still contained a few Gillham records: No. 2245D, 2374D, and 2506D.



ART GILLHAM at the height of his radio and recording career

By the next time a catalog was + 771D Just Waiting For You/Crying issued, several years later, these too By the next time a catalog state Again issued, several years later, these too several years later, these too sold Rags/ Just a Little Longer were gone. But Art had been a big several years later, these too sold Rags/ Just a Little Longer were gone. But Art had been a big several years later, these too sold Rags/ Just a Little Longer were gone. But Art had been a big several years later, these too sold Rags/ Just a Little Longer were gone. But Art had been a big several years later, these too sold Rags/ Just a Little Longer were gone. But Art had been a big several years later, these too sold Rags/ Just a Little Longer were gone. But Art had been a big several years later, these too sold Rags/ Just a Little Longer were gone. seller as long as there were millions of record buyers to cater to.

And our genial friend in Atlanta is still remembered with affectionate pleasure by a multitude of now middle-aged men and women who heard and enjoyed his recordings when both they and the world seemed young. He deserves, and I am sure he has, the gratitude of millions of popular music lovers to whom he has given so much enjoyment. Let us all join in wishing him a long 1116D Flutter By, Butterfly/I'd Walk a and happy life and speedy restoration to perfect health.

COLUMBIA RECORDS By ART GILLHAM (1924-1931)

(NOTE--All are 10-inch, double-faced. All are electrically recorded except No. 238D, 297D, 326D and 343D. Both sides are by Gillham in West 1353D I Found You Out When I Found You In/The Hours I Spent With You 1202D Gee, But I'm Blue/I'm Longing

238D How Do You Do/'Way Out West

in Kansas 297D Carolina Blues/The Deacon Told Me I Was Good

326D Hot Tamale Molly/Can't Your Friend Get a Friend For Me?

328D You May Be Lonesome/I Had Someone Else Before I Had You 343D Hesitation Blues/Second Hand

387D How's Your Folks and My Folks?

/Take 'Em to the Door Blues (Gus Van and Joe Schenk)

and Joe Schein,

411D Smile All the While/Angry
425D If You Leave Me I'll Never Cry/
Cecelia

Cecelia

1619D Chinatown, My
For Tonight
1663D Lamp of Aladdin/You Can't Take
My Mem'ries From Me

We Would I Love
You I Love
You I Love
You I Love

442D So That's the Kind of a Girl You Are/Feelin' Kind O' Blue

458D Are You Sorry?/Loving Just You 505D I'm Sitting on Top of the World/You're More Than a Pal To Me

529D Bam Bam Bammy Shore/Don't Let Me Stand In Your Way

550D She's My Gal/Mean Blues

737D I Can't Keep You Out Of My Preams/Hello, Little Girl Of My Dreams 2119D Have a Little Faith In Me/Ab-

PER 12175 The Dearon Told Mile 2 was good

Hearted Sue

892D Things That Remind Me Of You/ Let's Make Up

55D I'm Drifting Back To Dreamland (piano solo)/I'm Only Another To You 972D Broken Hearted/If I Get a Sweetie Now

1007D Tonight You Belong To Me/I Crave You (with the Southland Syn-copators)

1051D I'm Waiting For Ships That Never Come In/Pretty Little Thing 1081D That Savophone Waltz/I Could Waltz On Forever

Million Miles

1152D I Love You But I Don't Know
Why/Just Before You Broke My Heart 1194D Don't Forget the Pal You Left At Home/Twiddlin' My Thumbs

+ 1253D What a Wonderful Night This Would Be/Now I Won't Be Blue

1392D Gee, But I'm Blue/I'm Longing For My Old Gal, Sal

+ 1429D Nobody's Lonesome But Me/In My Sweetheart's Arms

1472D I'm Missing The Kissing Of Some-one/My Heart's Aching For My Old Gal 1540D Right or Wrong/It's Never Too Late To Be Sorry

1572D My Heart Cries Out For You/ Somebody Else May Be Telling Her Something (She'd Love To Hear From You)

1619D Chinatown, My Chinatown/ Just For Tonight

1726D I Love You, I Love You, I Love You, Sweetheart Of All My Dreams/ Some Sweet Day

1802D Somewhere There's Someone/What Wouldn't I Do?

1873D I'm Still Caring/You've Made My Dreams Come True

1919D Two Little Rooms/True Blue

614D In Your Green Hat/It's Too Late
To Be Sorry Now
626D I'd Climb the Highest Mountain
If I knew I'd Find You/Say It Again
657D It Don't Do Nothing But Rain/
He Ain't Done Right By Nell
685D I Wish I Had My Old Gal Back
Again/I'm Leaving You
685D Tenderly/Thinking



A photo of Art Gillham distributed by Columbia records in 1929

sence Makes the Heart Grow Fonder for Somebody Else 2189D You Don't Care/If I Had to do Without You

2245D Just Forget/Tonight

2265D Confessin'/My Heart Belongs to the Girl Who Belongs to Somebody Else 2291D Good Evenin'/I'm Drifting Back to Dreamland

.2331D (You Were Only) Passing Time With Me/When They Changed My Name to a Number

2349D To Whom It May Concern/Gazing at the Stars

2874D Shine On, Harvest Moon/If You're Happy I'll Be Glad 2450D If You Haven't Got a Girl/Some-thing Reminds Me of You

2506D ist a Minute More to Say Good-by/You are the Rose of My Heart

Dance Record with Vocal Refrain By Art Gillham

483D Five Foot Two, Eyes of Blue (fox-trot by Lanin's Red Heads, conducted by Red Nichols)/I'm Gonna Hang Around My Sugar (Lanin's Red Heads— re yeeg).

Tomak / Just Fregge

1957,		ordings by Joe Renfroe, a friend Art had not seen in years. Art talks ood old days" in Indiana while playing.
	118	Whispering - Reminisces about Joe Renfroe and Indianapolis
		I'm Getting Sentimental Over You - Talks about old and new
		<i>Music</i> (PS with talking)
	119	That Tumbled Down Shack In Athlone - Talks of being with composer when it was written (PS)
	120	When You Were Sweet Sixteen - Tells story of woman with cobwebs (PS)
	121	Lazy River - Talks about Hoagy Carmichael in Decatur, Indiana
	122	Stardust - Talks about Hoagy Carmichael teaching him how to play Stardust (PS)
	123	New Orleans (Hoagy Carmichael song) (PS)
	124	Jealous - Talks of Little Jack Little (PS)
	125	When Day Is Done (PS)
	126	What A Lay In The Hay (Was It Love) - Talks of Buddy DeSilva writing above at a party in New York
	127	She Said No ("I don't do much singing anymore")
	128	I'm Losing You
	129	Melody Of Love (PS)
	130	Some Of These Days – Whispering (PS)
1957	131	I'd Love To Live In Loveland (PS)
	132	Cuddle Up A Little Closer (PS)
	133	Tuck Me To Sleep In My Old 'Tucky Home (PS)
	134	Sweetheart Of All My Dreams (PS)
	135	A Shanty In Old Shanty Town (PS)
	136	A Little Love, A Little Kiss (PS)
	137	Title Unknown (PS)
	138	My Gal Sal (PS)
1957	Atlanta: Reco	ording by Joe Renfroe
	139	My Melancholy Baby (PS)
	140	Basin Street Blues (PS)

	141	Memphis Blues (PS)
	142	Hesitation Blues (PS)
	143	Whispering (PS)
1957-1958	Atlanta: Reco	ordings by Ab Luther, Harry playing guitar.
	144	I'm Nobody's Baby
	145	You Made Me Love You
	146	Piano Roll Blues (PS)
	147	Stars Are The Windows Of Heaven
	148	Whispering (PS)
	149	A Lay In The Hay - Talks about Con Conrad writing the above in Buddy DeSilva's apartment in NY
	150	Mabel Mabel Well and Able
	151	Whispering - Tells story of Salvation Army lassies. (PS)
1957-1958	Cincinnati: R	tecording by Joe Renfroe (poor quality tone and acoustics)
	152	Lazy River (PS)
	153	Some Of These Days
	154	My Gal Sal (PS)
	155	Just A Melody (PS)
	156	Whispering - Meet Me Tonight In Dreamland
	157	Who's Sorry Now (Joe sings?)
	158	Ida
	159	I'm Waiting For Ships That Never Come In (full recitation) - Talks about the Columbia record
	160	Memphis Blues (PS)
-	161	My Little Girl - Jealous (starts, then says "We did that last night") Hesitation Blues
	162	Stars Are The Windows Of Heaven
	163	Let Me Call You Sweetheart
	164	Talks about making Allied Transcriptions in Chicago
1958, June 4	Atlanta: Reco	ordings by Ab Luther
	165	Stars Are The Windows Of Heaven (tape warble)
	166	Stars Are The Windows Of Heaven (for Elizabeth Jo)

167 **Let A Smile Be Your Umbrella** (for Matt) 168 Estrelita (PS) 169 I'm Getting Sentimental Over You – mentions the Dorseys' early musical act 170 After The Laughter Came Tears - Talks about Cliff Edwards 171 I'm Waiting For Ships That Never Come In (full recitation) 172 Just A Melody (PS) 173 Somebody Painted My Dream Castle Blue 174 Piano Roll Blues (PS) 175 New Orleans (excellent!) (PS) 176 Whispering (PS) Atlanta: Recording by Joe Renfroe 177 Whispering - Ida 178 Curse Of An Aching Heart It's A Sin To Tell A Lie 179 Talks about Columbia records and plays Harvest Moon 180 181 Introduction to playing Columbia Record If You're Happy I'll Be **Glad** 182 You Tell Me Your Dream 183 Hawaiian Butterfly (PS) 184 Dear Old Girl (PS) 185 When I Lost You (PS) 186 Talks about Columbia records introduction to playing Sweet heart of All My Dreams with Red Nichols and Miff Mole 187 Introduces Columbia record Some Sweet Day 188 Rustic Dance - If We Can't Be The Same Old Sweethearts (vol ume dropout) 189 Let Me Call You Sweetheart (PS) Now I Won't Be Blue ("wrote words and music") 190 191 Talks about songs he wrote and introduction to playing Columbia record of Hesitation Blues 192 Introduction to playing Columbia record of Second Hand Love 193 Estraletta (PS) 194 Just A Melody (PS)

1958, Sept 1, Labor Day

195 When You Wore A Tulip

196 By The Mill Where They Made Sweet Cider

197 Meet Me Tonight In Dreamland

198 Oh, You Beautiful Doll

199 Alice Blue Gown – Whispering (PS)

1960, Feb. 1

Atlanta: Art closed The Representatives Center and retired after having had two heart attacks. Now fully retired. He tried to get his birth certificate to obtain Social Security. He went to Fulton County (Atlanta) and was genuinely surprised there was none. He then tried St Louis and found that is where he was born.

1960, May-June

Ken Berryhill's Old Record Shop newsletter for collectors features Art Gillham.

1961, May

Atlanta. Recorded by Jeff Tarrer

200 Interview:

Talks about Gennett Records

Talks about Pathe and Okeh records

Talks about Columbia records

Talks about the depression

Talks about Gennett records

Talks about Ted Browne

Talks about being a radio song plugger

Talks about Gennett records

Talks about royalties with Columbia

Talks about WSB and Lambdin Kay

Talks about Wendell Hall

Talks about Irving Kaufmann

Talks about musicians that worked his dates: Benny Goodman, Eddie Condon, Ben Selvin, Andy Sannella, Red Nichols, Miff Mole; Dorsey brothers; July 7, 1930 session with Benny Goodman

His arrangements

Lousy singer, talked while playing

Alex Hill and other piano players used

Ben Pollack (sic) Lew Pollack on piano

I played secondary

Used 3 microphones

Jack Smith copied his style, Victor did it on purpose, Smith better on

Vocals while Art better on piano

How Art started playing piano

Barrel House Pete records

Frank Walker

First electrical recording

Western Electric

Cornball recitations

Intimacy of his recordings

Jelly Roll Morton

1961, June 6

Atlanta, Ga, suffered fatal heart attack upon getting out of bed. Funeral was at Patterson's Spring Hill on Thursday June 8, with burial at Arlington Cemetery in Sandy Springs. He was survived by his wife Gertrude, and by sons of his first marriage Lon C. Gillham of Florida, and Hal C. Gillham of Charlotte, NC. He had three grandchildren.

Art Gillham Is Dead at 66; Radio's 'Whispering Pianist'

Art Gillham, 66, "The Whispering Pianist" of early radio fame, died Tuesday at his home at 152 Burdett Rd., NW.

With the popular theme song "Whispering," Arthur Lewis Gill-ham had an intimate style of singing in a subdued voice to his own piano accompaniments.

Among his most famous hits were "Waiting for Ships That Never Come In" and "Angry." He successfully revived "Shine On, Harvest Moon."

Mr. Gillham was born in St. Louis and had his first stage success in Chicago. He was a veteran of World War I, a member of the Waldo M. Slaton Post No. 140 of the American Legion, and a member of the Buckhead Elks Club.

About 20 years ago, he became principal of the old Crichton Business College. He retired from this position in 1952 after suffering a heart attack.

After several seasons in vaudeville, during which he toured on the Pantages Circuit, he moved to Atlanta in the 1930s and was heard on WSB.

He was a member of Sardis Masonic Lodge No. 107, F&AM, and the Scottish Rite.

Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at Spring Hill with the Rev. H. L. Turner officiating. Burial will be in Arlington Cemetery.

Survivors include his wife, and two sons, Hal C. Gillham, Charlotte, N. C., and Lon C. Gillham, Atlanta.

on, ead



1961, July-Aug.

Ken Berryhill's *Old Record Shop* newsletter for collectors features news of Art's death.

Gertrude continued to live at their home, "Wee Haven" for several years. She later lived with Art's son Hal and died in North Carolina. She was cremated and her ashes were buried next to Art at Arlington Cemetery in Sandy Springs, GA.

1961, Oct

Application for gravestone:

1-1	Suspendedona 4 NOV 1961	nies the one con present						
4	CILHAM, Arthur Lends	Arlington Cemetary, Sandy Spring, Ga.						
7	2. SERVICE HUMBER 3. PENSION ON VA CLAIM HUMBER (2963517 C-19 1/56 1/67	IMPORTANT - Instructions and complete and submit both copies. 19. This application is submitted for a stone or marker for the unmarked.						
	10 July 1918 29 November 1918	grave of a deceased mersber or former member of the Armed Porces of the U. S., soldier of the Union or Confederate Amiles of the Chyl War or for an annahed memcral plot for a non-recoverable deceased member. I hereby agree to accept eesponsibility for proper placement at the grave or memorial plot at no expense to the Government.						
1	Georgia B. GRADE OF N. BRANCH OF SERVICE, COM ANY, REGIMENT, DIVISION 31st Co. C.O.T.S.,	Gertrude S. Gillham Widow						
-27-61	Corporal Infantry, U.S. Army	ADDRESS OF APPLICANT Corner address. City and Estino 152 Burdette Roud, N.W. Atlanta 5. Georgia						
	1 January 1895 7 11. Dark of Death Grown, day, your	May Bestonded Gillham 20-5-62						
3	12. SELIGIOUS EMBLEN (Check one) 14. CHECK TYPE REQUIRED UPRISHT HARBLE BEAGSTONE FLAT MARKER STANKER	Atlanta Preight Station P. A						
7	STAW OF DAVID (SIMPOW) FLAT GRANITE MARKER NO EMPLEM FLAT ORDRIZE MARKER	17. HAME OF CONFIGNEE WHO WILL TRANSPORT STONE OR MARKER Mrs. Gertrude S. Gillham						
74	POR VENIFICATION OCT 10 1961 ONDERSO DEC 6 - 1981	ADDRESS OF CONDISINE (Street address, City and Stein) 152 Burdett Road, N. W. Atlanta 5, Ga.						
100	6175 CONTRACTOR JAMES H. MATTHEWS (200)	SUBSTURE OF COMMERCE Mars. Destouch S. Gillham						
4	CPL CEN INF OFF THE SCHI	MWI						
	DD FORM 1330, 1 AUG 60 REPLACES DA FORM 1911, APPLICA	TION FOR HEADSTONE OR MARKER From Approval Budget Boreau No. 22-R205						

I contacted Wendell Hall who wrote many letters outlining his career and his Recollections of Art and their relationship.

1976, July Hi Fi Stereo Review: reproduced Columbia ad:

1977, Jan High Fidelity Magazine: 100 Years of Sound Reproduction:

1924 ● Bell Telephone Laboratories builds prototype folded-horn speaker system. ● H. C. Harrison of Western Electric is granted patent for electrical recording in May. ● B. J. Grigsby begins making loudspeakers in U.S.; Celestion makes first component speaker in England. 1925 ● First commercial electrical recording session Feb. 25—by Art Gillham (The Whispering Pianist), for Columbia. ● In Mar., Victor licenses electrical recording process from Bell Laboratories. English Columbia buys American Columbia to obtain rights. ● First commercial electrical recording to be released, in Apr., is excerpt of University of Pennsylvania's Mask & Wig Club, by Victor. ● Brunswick-Balke-Collender shows experimental 12-inch long-playing record—contains 40 minutes of music, recorded at 78 rpm. 1926 ● Rice and Kellogg of Bell Telephone Laboratories receive patent for dynamic loudspeaker. ● Giovanni Martinelli, Mischa Elman, and others open in a sound movie using Western Electric's Vitaphone disc process at New York's Warners Theater Aug. 6. National Broadcasting Co., organized by RCA, inaugurates 24-station network radio service Nov. 15.





record MARCH 1963 research 30 CENTS

THE MAGAZINE OF RECORD INFORMATION & STATISTICS
65 GRAND AVENUE + BROOKLYN 5, N. Y.

FORM 3547 REQUESTED

ART GILLHAM -- THE WHISPERING PIANIST



ART GILLHAM

-- THE WHISPERING PLANIST

by Woody Backensto

Some years ago. I promised Art Gillham to write an article about him. Now it's too late to apologize to Art for my processification, for he passed away rather seldenly on June 6, 1961.

The same Art Gillham first came to my estention as the vocalist on Co 449, "Two Foot Two, Eyes of Blue" by LARIN'S RED HEADS. But this story began when Ken Huiston sent me information concerning the instrumental persented used on some of Art's records. Ken put me in touch with Dennis Deta of Gracewood, Guergia who had obtained the information from Art. Deta supplied tapes of Art's records for listening purposes, lette Cheura, formerly of Cotambia Secords, searched the filter for information. Collectors Clyde Haine, Phil Evana, Dick DaPage, and Evanley Hester came through with assists. Howard Waters passed judgminers after hearing the tapes. Finally Red Nichola took time to listen. Not being satisfied with the results at hand I was hoping for a miracle to complete the discographical information. Then along came George Blau, 3rd, who aptreed these coses into completeion. George filled in the missing "take" numbers, prapased additional tapes for listening purposes, and supplied information from Art's scrapbook. Without all this help these notes would not be possible.

Arriver Levels Gillham was born Jamesry 1, 1895, in Politon County, Georgia, these years after his family moved from Texas. The family moved to St. Louis, Missouri, in 1994, and Art attended Wyman School, County High School, and St. Louis University. Art was 19 when he left school to cover orchestra work. He served in the Army during World War i, then recarned to masie.

(Although Art supplied this information some years ago, George Blass reports a short while before Gillham's death Art had to have his birth contributes for some reason. Art looked in the Pulton County Counthouse, but there was no record of his birth there. He then wrote to St. Louis and learned that it was his birth place. Evidently his parents were whiting in St. Louis at the time of his birth;).

In 1982 he stated to work for the Ted Browne Monic Co. In Chicago, an a sheet music salesman on the road practically all the time, and when radio stations went on the air, he started singing and playing their songs into the microphones for broadcasting. As an accompanial on a Chicago startion, he received a date to sing one night and accepted. As the story goes, the mation received a large mail response, to be communed his singing. He always did admit he could not sing — whether he believed at or not in not known, but this is supposed to be the causes for the whitepering style.

White on the mad in September 1983, Art recorded 10 sides for Gennet Becords in Richmond, Indiana. Art claimed 4 of these transverse released, but details are enswellable at this writing.

In February 1924, he was tagged "The Whispering Plants" by Lambdin Eay of WSB in Atlanta during a radio rose as sales manager for the Ted Browse Ca. He used "Whispering" as a theme song and has claimed be was in the apartment on the night the tane was written.

In August 1924, after working at about 50 radio stations from coast to coast be went to New York, sent telegrams to all seconding companies telling them that he was on WIZ for one week at nors and each night at 9,00 PM for one-half hour, calling strention to his record sale percentality due to the number of radio stations he had worked over.

Art was first contacted by Herman Rose of Fathe Bacords, for whom he made 4 sides (all released). The only information available follows:

ART GELHAM (The Whispering Plants) - Novelty c. Oct. 1924
n-105600-1a, b. The Deacon Told Me I was Good - Pet 0820068,
Pe 121758
n-105602-1 - How Do You Do? - Pet 0820088.

Then he made 6 sides (all released) for Ariber Berg of Okeh Records. No details are available on these recordings. Then Frank Walker of Columbia Records contacted birs, with whom he signed an exclusive feature-arise contract. He attributes must of its seconding second to feature-arise for its help, advice, and connelling while recording for Columbia over a 7 year parted. He recorded about 150 sides of which some 150 were 1800 --- approximately 40,000,000 of his records were sold.

On Streamber 4, 1924, he was on the first NBC Sterwork show the night Possident Contidge was elected. The show originated from WEAF; Will Rogers was the master of corolisosies; others taking part in the program were Joseph Knecht's Orchestra. The Shannon Four, Wendell Hall, and Carnon Robison.

(Technically this was pre-network, but the skow was on an 18-station hook-up, the first of its kind, MBC was officially formed in 1926 with WEAF as one of the key stations.)

Act as no time patil an agent any commission, on all ble records, the steel, sengs, and personal appearance dates, as he handled all his own business. (Apparently the William Mords Agency represented him in some manner about 1930. Bosetheless, the previous gatement is as supplied by Ast.) He recorded about 30 of his own songs, all of them published by New York and Chicogo music firms. Most of these songs seem writize with Billy Emythe, one with Wernfell Hall, and several with other persons the biggest selling records were "You May Be Lonesome", "So Tited", "Things That Remaind Me of You", "Thinking", and the best seller, "Watting For Stips That Never Come Is".

Are also made plane rolls and said his most popular roll was of "A Little Love, A Little Kist", but for which company is not known. George Blas reports an article in 1923 commented that Art had mack many plane rolls. The only information George has been able to ancover is listed before.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY OF THE		
Marineba	1912	0.00
Mel-O-Dea	473.7%	Idellising
Mel-D-Desc	41378	Take in The Sen, Take Out The Moon
Supertone	8315	Drifting Back To Dreamland
Supercone	5553	Let Me Call You Sweetheart
Vocalstyle	1060T	Missouri Waltz-also released as Dan-Art
You also yle.	12786	Mean Blues - also released as Doo-Art.
	12796	Lost My Baby - also released as Dep-Art

Art also made personal appearances on the Loren, Partiages, and Saenger theaser circuits, he was on the South circuit while working for Ted Browne. On the Loren appearance in Atlanta he set an attendancerecord that was not broken until the World Premiers of "Gona With The Wind" in 1869. He lost most of his finances in the stock-market and bank crash of 1869.

During his casees Art played on over 200 radio stations. While on WBBM in 1985. Art met and married Gerirude Sheldon who also had a program at the station. He gave up network broadcasting in 1987, moved to Artesta. Georgia, and was Principal of Crichton's Sustions College for 5 years, heaving the school and opening his own humans, the "September of College" and retiring after 8 years on February 1, 1940, due to ill health, after two attacks of coronary thrombosis and a light stroke.

Art supplied most of the thumb-nail sketch above after his retirement. Still filled with a great sense of hurson, as exemplified by his stage and appearances, he stated, "Old Pappy", who tailed to his fugues on radio and records, now has a house in the middle of 2 series at 132 Burden Road, N.W., outside of Atlanta. Georgia, and he and Germade are living to up, with nothing to worry about but their two cocker spaniels."

On supplying the photos with this article, Art commented, "Don't dare to have one taken now --- everytime I look in the release I feel sorry for my wife --- having to live for 28 years with anything as haviny tooking as

An's scrapbook is filled with interesting photon. There's one of Am Gillham's Society Syscopatets, taken in Los Angeles, Calalizaria, December 1918, a five-piece group of two men foutling or reeds, violin and conset, a steemborile, drawn, and Art's piano. Art captioned meet of his magnitum. One of Art hopping a facight dar states. Art braving Chicago for New York to make Columbia Records'; one man growing Art in a doceway "Art is welcomed by thousands at the studio"; covered with navispapers and relaxing on a park booth "Art's Rivay Park Place Apartment in New York." by a public fountain with an anxique hand mitton. "Art's Exquisite bothnoom in his New York apartment", and one after the crosh taken at CBs in Morth 1901 is captioned "Syscopated Positriam".

continued on next page

```
The following details make up the discourage, Date were furnished by Has Felone F. Cheure. Unless otherwise stated, these are woods and plane by Art Gillan. For those interested, Art stated, The drum you think you hear on some of my old recordings was my laft foot which, when playing in tempo, I beat the hell out of the floor with.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             March 19, 1986
- 141107 unlessed The Waltz We Love
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             Barch 12, 1926
141575 unlarged
141576-5 0s 342
141577-2 0s 685
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 I Don't Nest To Porget
I Mich I Had My Old Gal Back Again
 Satobar 23, 1954
140113-1 Ge 238 Way Out West in Earman
140114-5 Hew Do You Do?
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             7447 8, 1995
144376-1 05 710
144377-2
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 Contactly
Dorseler 6, 1904
1A0123 On 197 The Descen Fold He I was good
1A0125 reside 1/25/25 for May Be Letosoms
(1A0124 recorded 11/3/24 by THE CATALLEYS)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 with Seb Seque[9] except Last master and Hurace
Searcy(SetOn) - data from Galambia
Fuzz & [Stitle Longer
Sed Not Flo
Graden Hearted
If I Set & Sweetle Nos
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 Sociober 18, 1996 -
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               149833-4 Se Bos
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            *14203E unissed
*142033-3 0: 572
*142034-3
 James 30, 1925
140125-7 Do 386
                                                                                 You May Be Lonesome (But You'll Be Lonesome Alone)
Carolina Bluss
                                    Do 297
  BACKIYO
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                Getober 10, 1885 - with Peter DeRoes(p) on First master and with Edd Volff(p) and Europe Sewen/(tube) on the second mester - date from Colombia Broken Hearted See 148580-5 Co 1891 | Destin Lattle Thing 148580-5 Co 1892 | Things That Reside No of You 148580-5 Co 1892 | The Desting Fract Reside No of You 148580-5 Co 1892 | The Desting The Electing of Sements 148580-5 Co 555 | The Dely American To Not 148580-5 Co 555 | The Dely American To Descendent - phase colo
 Senters 21, 1008
140074-5 Co 345 Second Head Love
140075 Malessed Dec Weeks Doc
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            *144939-1 00 588
*144980-5 00 1991
*144981-3 00 588
*144982-3 00 1472
*144983-5 00 955
*144984-5 00 955
Patriary 25, 1925

140300-2 St 34) Hesitation files

140301 unisous Heart Spokes Strain

140304-2 St 385 I Had Streets Has Before I Hed You

(140300/5 recerted mass day by YEE SLOWER SAUTHERS (SETH.)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             Hovesber 3, 1936 - with About Silver(p) - data from Columbia
Poternary SG, 1005

140389-1 Go SDT How's New Fellow and the Folian

140389-1 Go SDT How's New Fellow and the Folian

April SS, 1997 - with Andy Sammellang) - data from Columbia

(140380-1) Go SDT How's New Fellow and SDT A Friend Set a Friend For Hot

(140380-1) Go SDT How's New Fellow and SDT Hot How's New Fellow Williams

April SS, 1997 - with Andy Sammellang) - data from Columbia

April SS, 1997 - with Andy Sammellang) - data from Columbia

April SS, 1997 - with Andy Sammellang) - data from Columbia

April SS, 1997 - with Andy Sammellang) - data from Columbia

April SS, 1997 - with Andy Sammellang) - data from Columbia

April SS, 1997 - with Andy Sammellang) - data from Columbia
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 April 36, 1937 - with Andy Sazzalla(son) - data from Columbia
144943-5 00 Year Secondors Malia
Fedgmany 27, 1005
DAGGOA-3 to 336 Not Passile Holly
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                Art related that columbia gave him the best men available and on the Schwidzin Simboratura he used that Monola Miff Role, has Salvin, Shile Larg. Andr Bernella, Harry Barth, and Salve Hace. Art further shaked, "Den Belvin has descape of maste at Columbia and contracted all musicions and played on most of the proper used in the studie. At all times, when I needed a trampet player, in all groups, I used Sed Hoteleia hall of a seell gay and my idea of a real trampet man)."
000 05, 1985

40785-1 00 411

(40785-1 00 455

(40787-1 00 411

(40787-1 00 411
                                                                               Sells All the Shile
                                                                             Are for Sorry?
Angry
Jogs, Mr. Handy
  Whe 37, 1925
                                                                               So That's The Eind of a Siri You Are
Secila! Eind O' Dive
  #0730-1 00 425
#0733-3 00 440
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                Reporting the next sension, Niff Nois sould recall no such session and Sen Selvin sould offer so information. Ned Michels listened to these and verified Nois, Sensolin and Lang, but he said to would not have general himself. However, Art is sure that Bed and Niff were used <u>topoting</u> and the next are the only two sessions with a treatment. The corner is sured and region them would be expected of Nei, Diere is a flute featured on the first marker which suggests possibly a first sex doubling on flute, but Art is sure this was facuella.
 Table 29, 1995
140734 Unlawing
140735-3 De 458
140735-1 Do 485
                                                                              Words Of Love
Lowing Just Ten
If You Leave No I'll Serer Dry
  141192-3 to 485
                                                                                  Five Foot Two, Eyes Of Blue by LATID'S FOO SEARS
with incidental singing by Art Dillham
Let Be Gall You Desethment
Let Be Mallo As He Say "quoding"
Hello Little Girl of By Drowns
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 Howard Matera suggested Frack dariets; righting) and that it orals he Wall Repelson or Mike Reddelle(ap). Watgring all the evidence, I'll go along with the following personnels
   141157 unimpaed
141158
141159-4 co.737
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 April 36, 1907 - ANY CILIERS and his SOUSEARS SONOOMYCES
   141105-7 do 950
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                Art Gillman(vo & p); Red Ticholm(o); Miff McLa(tb); Andy Sammella
(alto/cl/flote); Den Selvim(vi);/Herry Barth(b); Bube Bloom(p).
                                                                                   Smen Bixes
Just Whiting For You
Don't Let De Stand In Your Way
Where Gan I Find You
   141165-7 de 990
141166-7 de 771
141167-1 de 529
141168 wedammed
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 184046-3 to 1007 | 1 Draws You | 184464 | Lang(bjo/g) | 184056-3 to 1104 | Debuilla | By Thembe (Fidilla | My Time Resy) | 184056-3 to 1116 | Fintime By Sutterfly |
   Dotober 21, 1904
[41172-2 00 930
141173-1 00 905
[41174-3 00 529
                                                                                  She's My Sal
You're More Than A Pal To Ke
Dam Dam Dany Shore
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 April 27, 3227 - APT GILLMAN and his SOUTHLAND SIGNODATORS
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               See occurrents for sension shows.

Art Ulliman(up & pl; Red Stanolslo); Wiff Mode(th): Arty Manuella (alto/cl); Edds Lang(bjoyg); Sen Selvin(vi); Sarry Earth(b); Rate Shows(pl.
Octaber 28, 1995 - first and last plane solve according to
the Columbia files; however, a wessi is
beard on the first master.
 141190-2 in 424
141191 inlayed
141192
                                                                                 I'm Mitting On You of the Yould Little Scotlere Pal, Of Mine
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        : 144090-1 CO 1253 NOW 1 NOW 'S DE BLUE
: 144097-5 CO 2116 I'W Welk a M511100 Hiles To De a LASALE
                                                                                   Mesonia 310es
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       1 1A4053-2 On 1153 I Lave for Sut I has 't From Why
Haron 16, 1986 - with Lee Fellas(p) on first only and Harace
Beavay(Suba) - data from Columbia
In Door Green Not
181800-2 do 614 In Door Green Not
181800-2 do 602 Lat's Bake Up
181800-1 00 737 I Gan's Emp Tou Out Of My Dreams
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    Ser 4, 1007 - with Mr. Discipl only on last - data from Delimbia, D44007-9 So 1194 [non't Propert) The Fal You Left at Mass - 144005-2 So 1081 I Sould Walls On Forwar Mith Non Sessitions to 144005-4 So 1093 Ment & Wooderful Right Data Would De 144090-3 So 1152 Just Refore Dot Scoke by Seat
Harch 17, 1936 - with Frances Spar(p) and Horses Season(tuba)

except lest meter - data from deliminta

144819-3 00 405 1'G Clask The Highest Normtain If I knew I's First

144819-3 00 405 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 00 15 0
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                January 3, 1923 - AMS HELLHAR With Boweley Accompaniesst
March 1B, 1925 - ethin locales Secretary and Secretary and Secretary Secreta
```

```
Barch 18, 1939 - woosl with piano and wintin sovempandsons - on
Further information from Columbia
    descery 10, 1988 - with Burray Seilner(vi) and Bute Bloom(p) - data from Columbia
  *145499-3 Go 1282 Se Tired
*145530-3 "You's Bel
*145530-1 Go 1492 In My Sec
*145508-3 Go 1319 Silver-M
                                                                                                                                                                                                     * 148101-5 do 1573 I'm Still Certing
                                                     So Tived
You'd Enther Forget Than Porgive
In My Seculbert's Arms
Silver-Heired Seculators
                                                                                                                                                                                                        March 25, 1923 - vosal with plans and visits ecrosposisent - no further information from Columbia
                                                                                                                                                                                                     WLANDAG-S do SONG IT You Made What I know
     Fernary 11, 1923 - ART GILLMAN(wood) with novelty accompanies t)
                                                                                                                                                                                                        Spreadury 25, 1969 - with Sovelby Associations of These allos were not reviewed by Red Michola. The bedegrounds here are very smooth and endlethinglive. Art's records usually have a subtions elaptist, but here is some open distinct not too typical of fembella. But Art shalled that only Secretal deabled on clarinot and solder on the records. Sare the galter is not larg, are in the galter on the same meater as the clarinot. So will suggest the followings
     with Morray Edliner(vi); Avdy Sampalla(alto/el/effecte/ficte/g);
Make Electrical - data from Columbia
 *1.65505-3 St 1619 Chinatoen, Ny Chinatoen
*1.65506-2 St 1672 Ny Heart's Athing For Ny Cli Gal
*1.45507-3 St 1319 Who Gires Ins All Your Etsses
*1.65508 unisated I'm Fast a Hollin' Store - Only accomp. Gillham(p)
                                                                                                                                                                                                        Red Stohols(s); andy Sernella(sl/g); Sen Selvin(vi) and agree violing Barry Sarthib); note Shoon(s).
 [BERBET 17, 1888] - with Manyay Satisfar(vi); Andy Sammelia(alto/g);
Rube Sicon(p) - dat from Columbia
*186539-1 do 1953 The Ecure 1 Spent With Ecu
                                                                                                                                                                                                      *149405-1 Go 3L19 Absence Dakes The Deart Grow Funder
*149405-2 Go 3051 If los More The Only Stril
*149405-2 Go 3L19 Have A Little Fatth In He
 January 19, 1998 - with Dale Wintrow(hermonole)-date from Columbia 145553 Unitessed Think of Me, Thinking of Jon
                                                                                                                                                                                                         Howesher 36, 1909 - would wish Revulty Assocsparisent News we indee only one market leaved on which to been indeement. The corrowt is market and very straight - 15 could be led but there is nothing typical of feet's style. However, will suggest the Collowing:
 Jacon 7 St. 1995 - Darries House Prize p solve by Art Gilliam)
 * 1.455563~E
 February 23, 1998
# 1402/6-1 do 1363 I Found You Out When I Found You In
                                                                                                                                                                                                         Red Stemple(c): Andy Sermella(cl); Sen Selwin(wi); Same Elcous(p)
                                                                                                                                                                                                         149680-5 do 2189 IF I had to Do Without You
149641 unitared (Ecc'll Alenys le) Walsone
149643 Would You Care
 April 56, 1050 - MARKEL-HOUSE PETE(p solon by Art Gillham)
                                                        St. Louis Himes
Heaghle Rives
Seme of Those Days
Hecitation Bluss
 w146102
 WIDAGIES
WIDAGIES
                                                                                                                                                                                                        Seventer 17, 1235 - with Howelty Assonganisani
Assonganisant is by plano, violin, train effects and belief last
usater is by Gillham(p) only.
 Abstract 15, 1005
%1-46545-3 Co 1540 It's Hever Too Late to De Servy
                                                                                                                                                                                                     - 249648-3 Oo 2245 Just Ponget
- 149689-5 Torndgth
- 149650-5 Oo 2189 You Don't Care
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               - also Yo 3008
 %146546-3 to 1672 My seart Ories Dat For You N146547-3 to 1663 for Can't Take My Sea'rice From Se
                                  1928 - woost with cornet and plane accommutment
                                                                                                                                                                                                        July 24. 1933 - vocal with Novelty Accompanisons
    Boward Waters mays this to definitely not Richots(o) and that it's Arthur Schutt(p)(Blocom was in Royays at the time).
                                                                                                                                                                                                       Only fats from Columbia are "Sen Selvin plus 4 men", Dem Commer's book lists Service Kleinfilp) and Berny Goodman(al); Don claimed that SO had verified his presence. On contacting Service Klein he had no resultention of such a secution, but wise admitted to a poor mesority. Set Historia Sidn't blink this was he. Art contented he used only Sistels on country and never rescrict with So. Soveror, before Art's death he finally recalled the following:
Service Klein(tp): Sency Section(s1); Don Selvin(vi); Sixte Lang(g); Based Bloom(p & Delia).
    Bed Sichols confirmed his prosence here; It sounds like Gillham(p)
#1460948-3 Go 1663 The Leap of Alladin
#186089-3 Go 1940 Hight or Mrong
#186089-2 Go 1572 Semebody Else May Be Telling Har Bownthing Ste 4
Love To Hear From You
   Palstancy 20, 1909 - ART Officials with Boyelty Accompanisms.
                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 150661-2 On 1891 Good Breath" | 150662-1 On 1855 Confronth'(Hest I Love You) | 150665-3 | By Board Delongs to The Sist Who Delongs To Samebody Else | 150666-3 On 2091 | To Destrict Else | 150666-3 On 2091 | To Destrict To Described (Institute 15066) | 150666-3 On 2091 | To Destrict To Described (Institute 15066) | 150666-3 On 2091 | To Destrict To Described (Institute 15066) | 150666-3 On 2091 | To Destrict To Described (Institute 15066) | 150666-3 On 2091 | To Describe To Descri
   Sand Fictoria confirmed his presence and one so reason to
disagree with the following personnels
   Sed Michols(e); Andy Sammella(el); Sen Sedyin(vi) plus other strings;
Eddie Lang(gl; Sacry Borth(b); Bubs Bloom(p).
#146009-0 00 1726 Some Sweet Day
#146009-0 " I Love You - I Love You - E Love You,
Beertheart of All Ry System
                                                                                                                                                                                                       Getcher 7, 1930 - with Alex Hill(y) - data from deliminate 150565-1 to $351 Bassing Time With No. 150566-1. When They Changed My Hame To a Number
March 5, 1039 - probably Anty demodia(g) added on first two masters. #188009-1 Co 2010 Two Little Rooms #186003-5 Co 1802 Somewhere There's Sometone #1860035-5 Co 1873 Ten're Made My Droman Fone Type
                                                                                                                                                                                                     Horaster 6, 1930
193039-3 to 2349
193940-3
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        Saning At The Stere
To When It Hay Concern
                                                                                                                                                                                                      January 5, 1931 - with car/el and plane encompanisant; first master also has worst quarter, THE EMPOLISMS - no further information.
  March 6, 1989 - woosl with Nevelty Accompanisant 
Sad Blobsla said this could be be; therefore, will go along with:
Fed Blobsla(c); Army Sarch(b); Ben Selvin(vi) and other strings;
Bhdis Lang(g); Savey Sarch(b); Bube Bloom(p).
                                                                                                                                                                                                    F151344-3 Co 2374
F151346-0
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         Skins On, Harwest Heen - also Ve 2027
If Now're Mappy, I'll Be Glaf - also
6148034 undersed By Swance River None
6148035-3 Co 1844 TMil No There's Hope For He
6148035-1 Co 1802 What Wouldn't I De
                                                                                                                                                                                                     Paternary 4, 2013
1512/3-2 Co MS1 Scentiding Restals No Of You
1512/3-3 Do MS1 Breen's Got A Girl
                                                                                                                                                                                                    FE53273-3
   Servet 7, 1999 - woost with instrumental assumpcedured 
Other than worldying larg's presence, Bed Michails could not decide 
on this section. However, I see no reason for not blatter the 
persecural as follows:
                                                                                                                                                                                                                               193i
milamaj
                                                                                                                                                                                                    Barch 13,
151416 1
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         Another Broken Saura As Long As We Save Back Other
  Red Michals(c): Andy Samuella(alto/al); New Solvin(vi): Micha Lang(g): May 10, 1931
Heatty Barth(b): Rube Bloom(p). Tou Are The Spee Of My Heart
Heatty Barth(b): Rube Bloom(p).
1/4604) unissued I'm Mobody's Beby
1/46040-3 do 1019 Tyme Blue
1/46043-2 do 1044 On The Alexe
                                                                                                                                                                                                   May 26, 1955
113571-2 Se 2506 Just a Minute More To Say
  Service S. 1939 - AND STILISHED Wedgering Handst)
                                                                                                                                                                                                     This is the last session art had with Selambia. Inter, there was only one nore commarcial rescribing session --- this for Ria Victor, as follows:
 Mastering to a poor dob of an air-shot of this record, Bed Hiddele said 16 was NOS ha. However, In my opinion after reviewing the record on good quality, there are parts that are mildly suggestive of Nichole' mated work on their dillhoss sides and hiddely has been abled for the soils portion with great ian's typical of Med. By his own admission Red claims he did various styles on records as called for by the medical director. Therefore:
                                                                                                                                                                                                     Barch 31, 1936 - recorded at the Texas Hotel, Ban Antonio, Texas; accompanied by Billy Smyths
                                                                                                                                                                                                     SVE 52740 DD D-5454 Somebody Swinted by Bream Gostle Blue
DVE 52741 Alexe [Fd Bather De Alone)
                                                                                                                                                                                             Di is appeared from the above notes that his instrumental accompanisation on some of Art's reserve heren's been established with 100% cartainty. Agrees having additional varification or contradiction to the personnal are requested to write me at 37 E. Sirard St., Voodbary, H.J.
  Probably Set Michaels(a): Sen Selvin(vi) plus other violing Sette
Lang(g): Barry Barch(b): Sade Bloom(p).
*146047-5 . Go 2016 -Sime Little You and Nime Little Ra
```

THE TWO GEORGIES (re: RR 40, 7:)
Information from Dr. Barry Brooks Winthrop, Mass.

Concerning the letters on p. 9 of R 71, George essel made "Mr. Toastmaster General for the lessel made PALETTE label (now out-of-business in the U.S.A.)
He also made "Jest of Jessel" for PALETTE but they never issued it.

ART GILLHAM re: RR49, 71 research from George Blau, Decator, Georgia

I note your confusion on page 8 of the October issue about Art and Alfred Gillham. In case Mike Rock Montgomery has not already cleared this up, here is the information I have: Art and Alfred are two different artists. (Alfred may be A R. Gillham, have to check with Mike who has talked with A.R. or Alfred one in Cincinnati.) A clipping in Art's rber, scrapbook dated February 24, 1924, which was the ntist). 919 first to call him "whispering pianist", indicates Art has made phonograph records and plano rolls. However the first recording session that I have been able to pin down is May 2, 1924 for Gennett. Some piano mber iverrolls were issued by Columbia and Supertone as early as June 1923. Information has come to me that he egen made some rolls for Ampico which might be about the same time, but Ampico specialists can neither verify nor deny this as they have no information on the six release numbers. The following is a list of join the rolls made by Art Gillham that have come to of dares. my attention so far:

:he er.

ikser,

IN

ement

le of

nti nu-

og. '

spect

ct.

lac-

Vocal-

style

```
Ampico
                    5891 I'd Rather Be Alone
ortly
                    6321 Make Believe
                    6699 12th Street Rag
                     6772 Whispering
                          Close Your Eyes
                     7361
1d
                          How Do You Do
                     7637
r's
          American
                           Let Me Call You sweetheart
          Capital
                    1094
                          Let Me Call You Sweetheart
die
                           The Deacon Told Me I was
e Wee
                           Good (part of a 10 tune nickel-
very
                           odeon roll)
                          I'm Drifting Back to Dreamland
          Columbia
imet
                              (6-23)
                      658 My Sweetie Went Away (9-23)
ith
                      739 Sunshine of Mine (12-23)
                      785 So This Is Venice (2-24)
 he
                      787 London Bridge (2-24)
ition
                          Land of Broken Dreams (2-24)
                      789
                      790 Mean Blues (2-24)
Great
                          Ireland Is Heaven To Me (3-24)
                      800
                          How Do You Do (9-24)
                      946
ld War
                           Carolina Blues (9-24)
                      947
                           Let Me Call You Sweetheart
                     1054
                            (3-25)
yed
          Duo-Art 713316 Idolizing
713321 Take In The Sun, Hang Out
he
, and
                             The Moon
          Mel-O-Dee
Lou,
                   47372 Idolizing
                   47378 Take in The Sun. Hang Out
                              The Moon
          Staffnote 241W Red Hot Blues
          Supertone 4062 Let Me Call You Sweetheart
```

12786 Mean Blues (4-24) ued 12798 Lost My Baby (4-24) late Sweetest Little Rose In Tennessee (7-24)

13124 How Do You Do (2-25) Calif. 13175 Carolina Blues (4-25) 13976 Page Mr. Handy, Blues (-26) THE Lonely)-H,

> For information, "I'd Rather Be Alone", and "Mean Blues" were his own compositions. "Whispering" was

5315 I'm Drifting Back To Dreamland

5382 Sunshine of Mine (12-23) 5390 London Bridge (2-24)

5469 How Do You Do (9-24)

5533 Let Me Call You Sweetheart

Sunshine of Mine (2-24)

Back In Hackensack, N. J.

My Sweetie Went Away (9-23)

(6-23)

5392 So This is Venice

(4-24)

his theme song. From 1922 to 1929, Art was employed by Ted Browne as sales manager and sales representative in the West. Several of his piano rolls, and early records were made partly as an employee of Browne: "How Do You Do", and "I'm Drifting Back To Dreamland" in particular. On an addition to the discography, Apex 679 and Ajax 17084 recordings of "How Do You Do" by "Fred Thomas" are from Art Gillham's Pathe recording. One note perhaps someone up there may have some info on that I need: In Art's scrapbook is a letterhead and envelope for 'Bebe Daniels' Movieland Syncopators" with Art Gillham listed as musical director. If anyone has any information on that group, I'd like to have it.

Tad Browne recalls that Art was connected with "some movie star" before working for him, but Miss Daniels does not recall such a group.

EDDIE STONE (re: RR71)

Letter from Kenneth C. Brooks, Indianapolis, Indiana Greetings:

I would like to thank you very much for helping me with my "Eddie Stone" inquiry. Thanks to you I had a card from a collector in N. Y. with an address and I am happy to tell you I located Eddie and have heard from him since.

So thanks again.

ISHAM JONES (re: RR #70, p. 7) Information from author, Leo Walker

Dear Mr. McAndrew.

In your August Record Research a reader inquired as to the personnel of the Isham Jones Band pictured on page 60 of my book, THE WONDERFUL ERA OF THE GREAT DANCE BANDS.

That line-up as given me by bassist, Walt Yoder is as follows.

Tpts - Clarence Willard, Bill Graham, Johnny Carlsen

Tmbs - Wendell Detorzy, Sonny Lee Saxes - Woody Herman, Saxie Mansfield, Vic

Hauprich, Don Watt Violins - Nick Hufner, Vince . . . (last name not

available), Eddie Stone

Guitar - George Wertener

Piano - Howard Smith

String Bass - Walt Yoder

Tuba - Joe Bishop Drums - Wally Lageson

The story on Ted Weems was interesting and the only sad note in the issue was the story of the passing of my very good friend, Red Nichols. He was at my house on his last birthday in May and when he drove away in the wee hours of the morning it was the last time I saw him.

(Editor's note: So far the early 30s band has elicited 3 personnels. In RR#18 a 1934 Jones band photo was identified by George (Peewee) Erwin who was a member of the organization. Another in RR70, p.7, was given by Jones sideman Milt Yaner to Dave Kingsbaker and constituted the sidemen identification via aural evidence of the current Victor LP reissue. And the third is the one you see above as given by sideman alumnus, Walt Yoder.)

OLIVER TYNES BAND - Research in the Bud From Ray Culley, brother of Wendell Culley

Mr. Culley has recalled the personnel of some of the Tynes band. Perhaps some of the following are on the recordings of the GEORGIA COTTON PICKERS on Harmony.

.... Smith, 1st tp; Bob Chestnut, 2nd tp; Dave Chestnut, drums (replaced Eddie Deas); Jackie Jackson, guitar (eventually had own band NBC-WBZ, Hotel Bradford, Boston): Buster Tolliver (Is he the Tolliver who recently recorded with Harry Dial?): Al Burse, bass horn and bass; and Wilbur Pickney (spelling! and instrument"). Perhaps some of our Boston researchers can put the pieces together and come up with the personnel of not only the Ohver Tynes - Georgia Cotton P.ckers recording groups, but also the Eddie Deas organization who recorded for Victor. All seem to have been in the Boston environs in the late 20s, early 30s

orgia

1999, Aug

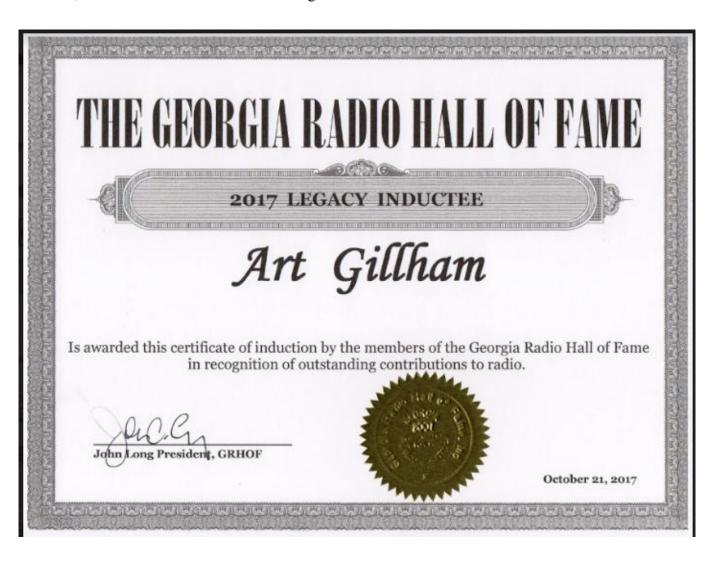
I was contacted and told a book was in preparation on the early crooners and the authors were seeking information on Art. I was put in touch with Ian Whitcomb and was told the book was finished but that he had yet to write the introduction to include information on Art. I provided the needed information and photos. The introduction has approximately 20 pages on Art as well as several photos. The published title is *The Rise Of The Crooners*.

2000, about

I started a web page on Art. Later I wrote a wickiepedia article.

2017, Oct 21

Inducted into Georgia Radio Hall of Fame.



Family and Billy Smythe 1961-1993

1972, Apr. 14

Billy Smythe died in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, TX. on April 14, 1972 at age 84. His obituary in the Corpus Christi *Caller-Times* states he was a retired radio station owner and lived in Port Aransas, TX for many years. He was born William Peter Schmitt in St. Louis on June 6, 1888. On his Social Security application on November 24, 1936, Billy listed his father as Charles Ezra Schmitt and his mother as Magdalene Zeisset Schmitt. The 1900 census of St Louis shows:

Charles E Schmitt, b 1859 in Pennsylvania, a teamster Magdaleline, b 1895 (1866) age 34 May H, b 1885 William P, b 1888

Albert F, b 1891

Charles E., b 1894

Edna E., b 1898

He was 7 years older than Art. It appears Billy was active in the music business in St. Louis from 1910-1913. After a trip with Art to the West Coast about 1914, he settled in Louisville, KY where he started his own music publishing business. In the 1920 census in Louisville he is shown with his wife Edith (Middleton) with two children. In 1934 he was shown as an accountant in San Antonio. In 1936 he was employed by KMAC in San Antonio. David Cowart learned Billy Smythe was the commercial manager of KIOR from 1947-1953. Other songs known to be written by Billy Smythe without Art Gillham are:

I Wonder If She's Still a Friend of Mine, (Smythe, C. E. Brandon) 1910 Ten Penny Rag (Smythe, Clarence Brandon) 1911

Before That Ragtime Band Goes Home, (Smythe, Ben Brown) 1912

The Educator Rag, (Smythe, C. E. Brandon) 1912

Rose That Grows In Dreamland Just For You (Smythe, Edith Middleton) 1913

(Hesitation Blues published as by Smythe-Middleton by Billy Smythe) 1915

Arithmetic Of Love (Smythe & Middleton) 1916

Joy Man Blues (Smythe & Middleton) 1916

Day And Night (Lovers' Blues) (Smythe, Al Johnson, Jay Pat Roberts) 1916 Move Your Feet, (Smythe, Roland Lamb) 1917

Fight For The Flag We Love (Smythe, Clarence Zollinger) 1917

Sweet Honolulu Maid Who Waits for Me, (Smythe, Scott Middleton) 1917

Over the Overland Route In An Overland Car (Smythe, Dave Harris) 1917

Sleepy Blues (Smythe, Dewey Baird, J Forrest Thompson) 1918

Day And Night (Lover's Blues), (Smythe, Al Johnson, Jay Pat Roberts) nd

Runnin' Around With The Blues (Smythe, Ben Brown) nd

Mistreated Mama Blues (Smythe, Ben Brown) nd

Some Sweet Summer Night, (Smythe, Glenn Wells) 1920

Cinderella, (Smythe, F. Nib King), 1921

What Does Dixie Mean To Me (Smythe, George B. McConnell)

Fight For The Flag We Love (Smythe, Clarence Zollinger)

ART'S FAMILY

1969, Oct.

1969, Nov 5

Louisa Canada Gillham, Art's first wife, died in St. Petersburg, FL (born April 28, 1901). She was buried in Fountain Park Cemetery in Winchester, IN on Her obituary was titled "Mrs Art Gillham".

F	WINCHESTER — Mrs. Louisa Gillham, 68, of St. Petersburg, Fla., one of the descendants of Sen. Asahel Stone, donor of the
F	la., one of the descendants of
E	
I	ien. Asahel Stone, donor of the
	Fountain Park Cemetery here,
	lied Thursday in St. Peters-
E	ourg.
	She was a recording personal- ty for Decca Records and sang
	inder the name of Delores
	elesko. Her late husband, Art,
	vas a recording personality for
	ctor and Columbia recording
	ompanies.
Ť	Mrs. Gillham was also a
n	nember of the Order of Eastern
	tar, the Ladies' Oriental
	hrine, and the Congregational
C	hurch, all in St. Petersburg.
	Survivors include two sons,
	on C. of St. Petersburg, Fla.,
	nd Hal C. of Charlotte, N.C.;
0	ne sister, Mrs. Sarah Whitte of
S	t. Petersburg, Fla.; and one
D	rother, W. H. Canada of Cor- us Christi, Tex.
p	Graveside services for Mrs.
C	fillham will be at 1 p.m.
	Vednesday at Fountain Park
	emetery with Rev. Paul O.
K	angas of the Winchester
C	ongregational Church officiat-
	ig. Friends may call at Walker
F	uneral Home here from 3 to 5

1983, Oct.

Gertrude Gillham, Art's second wife, died in Wilmington, NC (born April 29, 1909).

1993, Mar. 1

Lon Gillham, Art's son, died in St. Petersburg, FL (born December 24, 1921)

2000, Oct 9

Hal Gillham, Art's son, died of cancer. (born April 13, 1920)

Songs Composed By Art Gillham With Billy Smythe

Hesitation Blues, Art Gillham, Billy Smythe, Scott Middleton, in 1915 published by Smythe Music. Republished in 1926 by Jack Mills Music. The song is assigned to EMI Mills Music, c/o EMI Music. The 1915 Smythe-Middleton version is assigned to Edwin H. Morris.

Just Forget, Art Gillham & Billy Smythe, Billy Smith Music 1921 assigned in 1930 to DeSylva, Brown & Henderson (recorded by Hoagy Carmichael, 1930, Victor23034). ASCAP shows the song in 2003 as assigned to Chappell & Co or Warner Chappell Music.

Mean Blues, Art Gillham & Billy Smythe, J.W. Jenkins, 1923

The Deacon Told Me I Was Good, Art Gillham & Billy Smythe, Harold Rossiter, 1924

Anytime You Need A Little Loving Come To Me For That, Art Gillham & Billy Smythe, Joe Morris, 1924

Words Of Love, Art Gillham & Billy Smythe, Will Rossiter, 1924

You May Be Lonesome, Art Gillham & Billy Smythe, Ted Browne, 1924

Second Hand Love, Art Gillham & Billy Smythe, Irving Berlin; (also included in Irving Berlin Universal Dance Folio #13), 1925

Just Waiting For You, Art Gillham & Billy Smythe, National Music, 1925

Little Southern Pal of Mine, Art Gillham & Billy Smythe & Maddox, 1925

Don't Let Me Stand In Your Way, Art Gillham & Billy Smythe, Jack Mills, 1926

I Don't Want To Forget, Art Gillham & Billy Smythe, Triangle, 1926 (re corded by Joe Davis The Melody Man on November 29, 1926 Harmony 312-H)

Crying Again, Art Gillham & Billy Smythe, Jack Mills, 1926

If I Get A Sweetie Now, Art Gillham & Billy Smythe & Larzeleve, 1926

Things That Remind Me Of You, Art Gillham & Billy Smythe, Jack Mills, 1927

What A Wonderful Night This Would Be, Art Gillham & Billy Smythe, Ted Browne, 1928

Tonight, Art Gillham & Billy Smythe, 1929

Something Reminds Me of You, Art Gillham & Billy Smythe, 1931

Somebody Painted My Dream Castle Blue, Art Gillham & Billy Smythe, Fred Foster Music, 1934

Alone, Art Gillham & Billy Smythe, Fred Foster Music, 1934

Songs Composed by Art Gillham With Others

Smile As You Kiss Me Goodbye, Ray Egan & Art Gillham, A.J. Stasny Music, 1918

Will It Be Long Until We Meet Again, Al Worth & Art Gillham, Echo Music, 1918

You've Stolen The Keys To My Heart, Mort Green & Art Gillham, Ted Browne Music, 1919

Days Of Yesterday, Elliott Shaw, Sidney Holden & Art Gillham

I'm Missing The Kissing Of Someone

If I Could ---- Tonight

Loving Just You, Art Gillham & Elmer Olsen, Harold Rossiter, 1925

Just Before You Broke My Heart, Art Gillham, Seger Ellis & George Lipschultz, F.B. Haviland 1927

In My Sweetheart's Arms, Art Gillham, J Russell Robinson, Marie Elliott, Joe Davis, 1928

My Heart Cries Out For You, Art Gillham & George Randall, F.B. Haviland, 1928

The Lamp Of Aladin, Art Gillham, Fred Johnson & Bill Kennedy, Triangle, 1928

Somewhere There's Someone, Art Gillham & Lillian Madison, J.W. Jenkins, 1929

I'm Just A Rolling Stone, Art Gillham & Wendell Hall, 1927. In 2003 the song is assigned to two publishers: Edwin H. Morris and to Wendell Hall Music Maker c/o The Songwriters Guild.

If You Know What I Know, Art Gillham & Howard Johnson, 1929

You Don't Care, Art Gillham & Coots, 1929

If You're Happy I'll Be Glad, Art Gillham & Howard Johnson, 1931

Songs Composed by Art Gillham Alone

Now I Won't Be Blue, 1927

Pussy, 1928

My Dream Girl, 1932

New Orleans, 1948

Nadja, 1948

Just A Melody 1954

Folios

Uncle Tom's Cabin contains You've Stolen The Key To My Heart
In Old Kentucky contains You've Stolen The Key To My Heart
Irving Berlin Universal Dance Folio #13 contains Second Hand Love
Tex Fletcher Songbook

Art Gillham Folio of Sob Songs, 10 songs, folio published by Triangle, 1928

Joe Davis Entertainment And Minstrel Folio, published by Joe Davis Music, 1931. Also published in Australia.

Art of Playing Popular Music, 1934 (a how to play piano book.)

Bud Fisher's Mutt and Jeff Songbook

Other Sheet Music with Art's Photo:

Refrigeratin' Mamma, Walter Wasserman, 1926

Sweet Thing, Ralph Williams, Herman Kahn, Joe Verges, 1926

Idolizing, Sam Messenheimer, Irving Abrahamson, Ray West, 1926

I'm Waiting For Ships That Never Come In, Jack Yellen, A Olman, 1919 (1927)

So Tired, George Little, Art Sizemore, 1927

Dusty Stevedore, Andy Razaf, J.C. Johnson, 1928

You've Made My Dreams Come True, Dan Hornsby, Harry Pomar, 1929

Blue Little You And Blue Little Me, Howard Johnson, Joe Davis, 1929

S'posin', Andy Razaf, Paul Demiker, 1929

I Get The Blues When It Rains, Marcy Kauber, Harry Stoddard, 1929

You Were Only Passing Time With Me, Alex Hill, 1930

Another Broken Heart Howard Johnson & Joe Davis, 1931

I Still Get A Thrill Thinking of You, 1930

Art was a member of:

Lions Club

American Legion, Waldo M Slaton Post 140

Sardis Masonic Lodge 107 F & AM

Scottish Rite

Buckhead Elks Club, organist

ASCAP

American Federation of Musicians

Texas Rangers (honorary)

Zit's Theatrical Newspaper Only One "Whispering Pianist"

Editor Zit's Theatrical Newspaper:

Dear Sir:

While broadcasting from the old Drake Hotel radio station, WDAP, Chicago, during December, 1922, I found that my voice carried just as well, and my "patter" registered more effectively when I used a low, intimate, conversational tone. I adopted this method of broadcasting at once, and have used it continually sever since.

In May, 1923 I started on my first tour of radio stations. On February 23, 1924 I worked from station WSB, Atlanta, Georgia, and the following day Lambdin Kay, "The Little Colonel", the station announcer, who was also at that time, radio editor of the Atlanta Journal, wrote an article for his paper about me, using my photograph, and headed his story "The Whispering Pianist" – thus christening me with the radio title that I have since used continuously in my radio work and on Columbia phonograph records.

To date I have broadcasted from 208 radio stations throughout the country (by actual count), and I have obtained some degree of popularity because of my work. I have just returned from my latest trip, during which I have frequently been accused of adopting and imitating the style of a certain other radio and phonograph artist who has come into the field in the during last six months and is using both a billing title and a broadcasting method similar to those used by me.

I have received word from good authority that this new artist was "dug up" and promoted for the prime purpose of competing with me and affecting the sale of my phonograph records.

In the interest of fair play, and in justice to me, I respectfully ask that you publish this letter so that your readers who know me and my work will have the correct facts, and realize that I am not an imitator, nor am I profiting by the ability, popularity and hard work of another artist.

Very truly yours,
Art Gillham
Chicago, March 15, 1926.

Art's handwritten note below the article in his scrapbook states "Letter to all trade papers where work and title was infringed upon."

NEWS CLIPPINGS

San Francisco, November 30, 1928:

Art Gillham, The Whispering Pianist and Exclusive Columbia Recording Artist Begins Local Engagement

Art Gillham Has Quiet Knack of Pleasing Folks

He Chatters and Produces Soft Notes on Piano and Sings His Songs in Whisper Tone of Voice

Now as Mr. Kipling says, there is a young man named Art Gillham, who plays the piano and sings. He opens at the Pantages Theatre tomorrow. He has the ear of the people, because in five years he has played and sung out to the air from 287 radio stations and people will not listen to what they do not like. When people want to hear him some more, and he is not on the air just then, they buy his Columbia phonograph records, and on these he croons to them of things that makes them smile, or warm their hearts, but mostly the latter, because that is what people need most.

He says of himself that he plays the piano very badly, but he is too modest, for this is not so. He plays very simple melodies, or, at least, they seem so, for not many people can do this thing, being mostly desirous of making a loud noise. They call him "the Whispering Pianist".

Sings in a whisper

He sings like that, too. You can hear every word that he sings, and his voice has little unexpected tricks in it, but they are all very pleasant to hear, informal and confiding, as the really greatest men usually are.

Fortunate, indeed, are those folks who can hear Art Gillham play and sing at the Pantages this week.

Back in 1922 at the Drake Hotel which was then station WDAP, Art Gillham started broadcasting as a pianist for singers who sang over the station. Someone dared Gillham to sing a song, and as he was a writer and had quite a few songs in print at that time, he sang one of his own and accompanied himself at the piano. The instant response of the radio listeners proved to him that he had found something just a little bit different.

While on his first tour of stations he worked at WSB, Atlanta, Ga., and there Lambdin Kay gave him the name of the "whispering Pianist," which has become a nationally known cognomen. Since that time Gillham has worked at nearly 300 radio stations in the United States and Canada and his whispering style of singing is being used by artists all over the country on the radio.

In 1924 Gillham went to New York and the Columbia Phonograph Company saw the possibilities of his work and signed him as an exclusive artist. Since that time he has made over 50 Columbia records.

He tells you over the radio and on records that "he is the boy that can win"--"the world's worst piano player"--"just a poor old man trying to get by" and that he weighs 376 pounds, is bald headed and always has to have his cup of coffee before he can work.

He keeps up this chatter while his fingers wander over the keys of his piano and he croons his melodies in such a manner that his listeners in front of the loudspeakers and the phonographs or in the theater realize the intimacy of his work, as he seems to talk to each one individually.

Taken all in all, Art Gillham, the "whispering pianist," is just a little bit different.

Gillham Makes Records During Theatre Career

Pantages Headliner Produces More Than Fifty for Columbia Company; Stars on Vaudeville Stage

Whispering Art Gillham, exclusive Columbia recording artist and current headliner at the Pantages Theatre, was first signed by the Columbia Phonograph Company in 1924 and, in addition to hundreds of radio performances, and several vaudeville engagements, he has found time to produce more than fifty records for that company. A number of his records are:

You May Be Lonesome

I Had Someone Else Before I Had You

Hesitation Blues

Second Hand Love

I Wish I Had My Old Girl Back Again

I'm Leaving You

Tenderly

Thinking

I Can't Keep You Out Of My Dreams

Hello, Little Girl Of My Dreams

Just Waiting For You

Crying Again

I Don't Want To Forget

Broken Hearted Sue

Things That Remind Me Of You

Let's Make Up

I'm Drifting Back To Dreamland

I'm Only another to You

Broken Hearted

If I Get A Sweetie Now

Tonight You Belong To Me

I Love You

I'm Waiting For Ships That Never Come In

Pretty Little Thing

That Saxophone Waltz

I Could Waltz On Forever

I'd Walk A Million Miles

Flutter By Butterfly

I Love You But I Don't Know Why

Just Before You Break My Heart

The Pal You Left At Home

Twiddlin' My Thumbs

Now I Won't Be Blue

What A Wonderful World This Would Be

So Tired

Art Gillham, the whispering pianist, exclusive Columbia recording artist and vaudeville star, is here this week at the Pantages Theatre. Mr. Gillham in the comparatively short time that he has been known to the American public has accomplished a record for popularity and production that is impressive indeed. His piano accompaniments and his style of singing are of a character that is simplicity itself and thereby probably hangs the reason why he is so universally admired, for true artists are said to possess this characteristic to a remarkable degree.

An admiring public should be grateful, indeed, to the modern science which makes it possible to hear such an artist though he may be hundreds of miles away when he is singing. That the pleasure of hearing his voice at will is a fact which all take as a matter of course, for his songs have been preserved on Columbia records which may be played whenever desired. A hungry public that has required him to produce records in a volume that is nothing short of astonishing, for the current list of his recordings number well over fifty.

In these days of modern science and invention people are heard that we never expect to see--many attractive personalities never get out into this far western country--and in the busy course of everyday life their talents could never be duly appreciated unless the phonograph and the radio made it possible.

This week, however, a national figure in the world of modern music appears at the Pantages Theatre, where all may have the opportunity to see and hear him. The desire to associate with the appearance and the personal characteristics of one of whom much is known, but who has not appeared locally, may be satisfied. Regardless of the number of photographs one may have seen, nothing is as substantial as seeing the artist himself.

Thousands of people all over the country have wanted to see Art Gillham, the Whispering Pianist, and now the opportunity is presented--for beginning tomorrow he will appear all week at the Pantages Theatre.

Atlanta Constitution

October 22, 1927

Gillham "Whispering Pianist" Atlanta Visitor Next Week

There probably have been as many, if not more, records sold of the Columbia recordings of Art Gillham, the "whispering pianist," than any other star of the waxen disk.

There is no radio performer more popular than Art. He has broadcast his insinuatingly likeable voice and his tantalizing piano accompaniment from over 200 radio stations in America. And always the listeners-in have wired and post carded for more.

Next week Gillham is coming to Atlanta in the flesh. He is to appear at the Loews Grand Theatre as an added attraction to a wonderful bill of vaudeville they have announced as celebration of the eleventh anniversary of the Loew's debut in Atlanta.

A wizard with the piano with a lovable tone to his "whispering" voice, Art GILLHAM's art is a unique thing. It weaves a spell around the listener and once thoroughly enjoyed, it is a thing of which the hearer never tires.

Gillham will, of course, appear at the Grand at every performance during the week.

He will also appear briefly, at leading music stores in the city, in order to give his thousands of Atlanta friends and admirers the opportunity of seeing him a little close-up.

On Tuesday,	betwee	en 1 and 2	p.m. 1	he will	l be at t	he Cable	e Piano	o com	pany	on No	rth Bro	ad Str	eet, v	where
he will sing	a little,	meet the	folks a	and au	tograph	records	as de	sired	and a	s long	as his	arm a	nd th	e pen
hold out.														

At the same hour on Wednesday he will be at Ludden and Bates on North Pryor Street doing the same things. Other appearances may be announced during the week.

New Orleans States

April --, 192-

He's Whispering Pianist"

You've heard him, perhaps over one of the 287 radio stations from which he has broadcast, or on Columbia records. Art Gillham, the "Whispering Pianist", 376 pounds, bald headed (so he tells you), addicted to strong coffee to keep him going, but a great artist, this Art, now appearing at Loew's State Theatre.

Five years ago, Gillham originated, by accident, the style of song singing he has since made famous. While accompanying a radio singer on the piano, he was dared to sing a song himself into the microphone. He did so, and was at once engaged as a novelty singer on his own.

His style is the informal and confidential style, never forcing the voice. Every word, though sung so low, is perfectly clear, and in addition there are odd whimsical tones that are inimitable because they are the natural expression of an original and very winning personality.

Art Gillham himself says that none of this is art, and that he envies the really great singers and pianists. He may be unconscious of what he does and how he does it, but the result is certainly Art.

Little Rock: Arkansas Democrat

July 12, 1927

Art Gillham At Majestic

Columbia Record and Radio Artist One of Headlines

The new bill at the Majestic tomorrow is another of those entertainment programs that is styled as an array of choicy talent and boasts of two headliners. Art Gillham, the popular radio artist and Columbia recording artist, shares top spot with Billy Taylor and Katherine Morris.

Art Gillham, "The Whispering Pianist," made famous by his Columbia records and his work over the radio is at the Majestic in person on the new bill. Gillham is the originator of the whispering style of singing and according to his record sales is one of Columbia's top best sellers. Besides his singing, Gillham is an expert on the piano and is said to feature some novelty arrangements on the ivories. Gillham's engagement is made possible by Pfeifer Brothers, who are the local distributors of Columbia records.

Cleveland Plain Dealer

date not included, 1927

The Whispering Pianist

You have heard him, perhaps over some of the 297 radio stations from which he has broadcast. He whispers his tunes, tells his fans he weighs 376 pounds, is bald-headed, and addicted to strong coffee to keep him going.

But off-stage Art Gillham, who stars at the State this week, is an entirely different person. A medium-weight, pleasant-looking fellow, he has a mop of black hair which is set off by horn-rimmed glasses, and he invariably drinks tea!

After a chat with him last week one could readily understand Gillham's phenomenal popularity on the radio. He has an intimate, ingratiating manner that stamps him as "different". He can be amusingly nonsensical without being foolish. Knowing his own ability, he does not hide it under a bushel basket of false modesty; and you feel that he can sell not only himself but anything from records to grape nuts.

Art originated some seven years ago the whispering style of singing, which has been so widely copied. He confessed with whimsical humor that his success was just an accident, saying that he was a poor singer and the "world's worst pianist."

Although only 38 years old, Gillham has spent twenty of them in musical work. He has had an orchestra of his own, a song publishing house and among other things was music "doctor" at Kresge 5-and-10 in Cleveland about five years ago.

His phonograph records are the second best sellers on the market. Publix wanted to sign him up for a long term contract, Gillham said, but he was too lazy to think of playing four and five shows a day.

Beaumont, Texas

August 27, 1927

Art Gillham Comes To Liberty Sunday

Art Gillham, known through his phonograph records and radio broadcasting as the whispering pianist, will be brought to the Liberty Theatre for a five days' engagement beginning Sunday. Gillham, who is a pioneer broadcasting artist, having started his radio career in August, 1922 over the Drake Hotel station in Chicago, has sung his confidential songs over more than 200 stations to date. While in this city he will also appear at the Jones O'Neal Furniture company, where he will autograph his records purchased there during the stay here.

Tracing Art's Radio Career

Art began his career in radio in 1922 as an accompanist to singer song pluggers for the Ted Browne Music Co. The song pluggers sand on Chicago stations and also traveled, playing in music stores and dime stores selling sheet music. In December 1923 a singer did not appear and Art stepped in to sing. The response was so good that he continued to sing. As he traveled as a song plugger he would stop at every radio station on his route to perform Ted Brown songs. He saw radio as a great asset in selling sheet music, and later of records. He apparently kept a diary of his trips and radio appearances. Newspapers reported his radio appearances:

- 1922 began playing accompaniant on radio for Ted Browne Music Co singers
- 1922, December WDAP Chicago: a singer failed to appear and Art accepted the challenge and sang. Response was such that he continued to sing.
- 1923, April 27 first mention of Art on radio with his wife singing, noting he has appeared on the Keith Circuit.
- 1923, May 6 First radio tour with Lewis Farris doing the vocals
- 1923, Dec 23 Art sings two of his own songs on WDAF- Chicago
- 1924, Feb 24 Art appears on WSB- Atlanta and is called the Whispering Pianist.
- 1924, April 6 Art is noted to have played on 63 stations
- 1924, Aug 3 Art is noted to have played on 69 stations
- 1924, Nov 4 on first commercial "hook up" Eveready Hour Nation Election
- 1924, Nov He has played on 72 stations

- 1925, Aug 8 He has played on 151 stations
- 1925, Nov 1 Noted has appeared on 200 stations
- 1927-1928 theatre tours in South and West, playing on radio at each stop
- 1928 May 11 reported to have played on 287 stations
- 1929, May on network programs Majestic Theatre, Columbia Theatre.
- 1931, Nov 2 Reports he has played on over 300 individual stations.
- 1931-1932 CBS Syncopated Pessimism and Breakfast With Art and Lotus Land
- 1932-1937 depression played primarily in St Louis, Chicago, San Antonio, New Orleans.
- 1937-1954 Atlanta on WSB, WGST, WAGA, WRNG. And WAGA-TV

ART GILLHAM'S GENEALOGY

The following genealogy has been provided by Herb Gillham.

Thomas Gillham was born about 1710 in Ireland or England. He married Mary Meade. It is believed they immigrated to the Colonies about 1730 with one or more children. The family is believed to have settled in Augusta County, VA about 1740. About 1764 he was granted land by Governor Tryon of North Carolina, which was later determined to be in York County, SC. Their children were:

- 1. Charles Gillham
- 2. Ezekiel Gillham
- 3. Mary Gillham
- 4. Nancy Gillham.

Mary Meade Gillham was killed by an Indian or a slave. Thomas married Margaret Campbell. Their children were:

- 5. Sarah Gillham
- 6. Susannah Gillham
- 7. Thomas Gillham, Jr.
- 8. James (Clemons) Gillham
- 9. William Gillham
- 10. John Gillham
- 11. Isaac Hillham.

Thomas Gillham served during the Indian Wars in SC and in the Revolutionary War. He died between 1785 and 1800 in York County, SC.

James (Clemons) Gillham is believed to have been born in Augusta County, VA about 1753. He married Ann Barnett. She was the daughter of Capt. Barnett under whom James served in the Revolutionary War in South Carolina. She and 3 or 4 of their children were reported to have been kidnapped by a band of roving Kickapoo Indians while they lived in Kentucky. There are several versions of the story but it is the general consensus that a French Trader helped James ransom his family with the final payments being made some years later by one of James' sons. After this incident, Ann Barnett Gillham was granted 160 acres of land because of her travails with the Indians. (Part of that land has been sold back to the government to be used as part of the Lewis and Clark exposition site.) He also served in the Indian Wars. The family finally settled in Madison County, Illinois. Their children were:

- 1. Samuel Gillham
- 2. Isaac Gillham
- 3. Mary Gillham
- 4. Jacob Clemons Gillham
- 5. Nancy Gillham
- 6. James Harvey Gillham
- 7. David Marney Gillham
- 8. Sarah Gillham

James (Clemons) Gillham died about 1813. There are markers in Wanda Cemetery marked by the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of the American Revolution, and he is mentioned on a plaque of the Madison County, Illinois courthouse in Edwardsville, Illinois.

Samuel Gillham was born about 1777. He married **Anna Patterson** on October 17, 1798 in Madison County, Illinois. Their children were:

- 1. Adelaide Gillham
- 2. Anna Gillham
- 3. Gershom Mecham Gillham
- 4. Loruhamah Gillham
- 5. Nancy Gillham
- 6. John Patterson Gillham
- 7. Isom (Isham) Barnett Gillham
- 8. James Harvey Gillham
- 9. Louisa Gillham
- 10. Samuel Jeffers Gillham

Samuel died about 1826 and is also buried in the Wanda Cemetery in Madison County, Illinois.

Isom (Isham) Gillham was born in St. Clair County, Illinois around 1805. Isham Gillham is found in the 1820 census of Madison County, Illinois with a household of 2 free white males over 21, 7 other free white inhabitants and 1 free person of color. He married Jane Hamill in Madison County, IL on October 21, 1830. Their children were:

- 1. Sarah Ann Gillham
- 2. Isham Benson Gillham
- 3. Nancy Caroline Gillham
- 4. Gershom Patterson Gillham

Isom married second Mariah B. Cato on July 18, 1850 in Greene County, Illinois. Their children were:

- 5. George Edwin Gillham
- 6. William Gillham

Ison Gillham married Elizabeth Orand on August 13, 1859. They had no children. Ishom died around 1865. In an article in Radio Digest of July, 1927, Art said his grandfather Isham Gillham was noted as the musical director "for the great Ole Bull". Ole Bull (1810-1880) was a composer and violinist from Norway who appeared in the United States

George Edwin Gillham was born about 1851. He married Ada Ellen Lewis (born c. 1858) about 1884. She is said to have been a niece of Merriweather Lewis of Lewis & Clark fame. She was also noted as a singer and pianist in St. Louis. He and Ada moved to Atlanta, Georgia about 1890 where he was shown in the City Directory as a carpenter. By 1895 they had moved to St. Louis where city directory records show George Gillham was a carpenter. Art's listing of his place of birth varies from St. Louis to Atlanta. He learned late in his life that he was born in St. Louis rather than in Atlanta. They had two children:

- 1. Arthur Lewis Gillham, born January 1, 1895
- 2. Ruth Mary Gillham, born November 9 1898; died March 19, 1928.

He is shown in the 1920 census of St. Louis County with Ada, Ruthy and Arthur in the household. George Edwin Gillham died on July 7, 1921. Art's sister Ruth died of tuberculosis on March 19, 1928 in the St. Louis Sanitarium. Her death certificate shows her as a musician. Art's mother was reported sick in the early 1930's causing Art to leave New York and return to St. Louis to care for her. She died in February, 1942 in University City, Missouri.

Arthur Lewis Gillham, born January 1, 1895 in St. Louis, MO, spent early years in Atlanta, GA before returning to St. Louis by 1901. Married Louisa Canada on April 19, 1919 in Allen County, IL. They had:

- 1. Hal Gillham, born 1920; died October 13, 2000.
- 2. Lon Gillham, born December 24, 1921; died March, 1993

They divorced and were remarried by July, 1927 and divorced again about 1930. Louisa died in October, 1969 in St. Petersburg, FL. Art married Gertrude Shelton on October 25, 1932 in Chicago. Art died June 6, 1961 at home in Atlanta. Gertrude died in October, 1983 in Wilmington, NC. Both are buried at Arlington Cemetery in Sandy Springs of Atlanta, GA.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Art Gillham's scrapbook, photographed with his permission by George Blau

Jim Walsh, "My Favorite Pioneer Recording Artists: Art Gillham", *Hobbies Magazine*, September, 1957

Woody Backensto, "Art Gillham", Record Research, March, 1963

Russ Connor, Benny Goodman, Listen To The Legacy

Brian Rust, Jazz Records 1897-1942

Brian Rust, Complete Entertainment Discography 1897-1942

Brian Rust, The Victor Master Book, Vol 2

Brian Rust, Columbia Master Book Discography, Vol III: 1924-1934

Roger Kinkle, Complete Encyclopedia of Popular Music

Joel Whitburn, *Pop Memories 1890-1954* (not accurate pre 1940)

Tom Lord, Jazz Discography, Vol 7

Ross Laird, Tantalizing Tingles

Michael Pitts and Frank Hoffman, The Rise of the Crooners

Record Research, #49 (March, 1962); #73 January, 1966

Richard Johnson and Bernard Shirley, American Dance Bands On Record and Film 1915-1942, 2009

Thomas A. DeLong, *Radio Stars An Illustrated Biographical Dictionary of 953 Performers, 1920 through 1960* (published 1996)

James Kaplan, Frank: The Voice

Aretha Franklin The Complete Guide, p 286.

Encyclopedia of Recorded Sound, vol 1

Gary Marmorstein, The Label: The Story of Columbia Records

Alan Sutton & Kurt Nauk, American Record Labels and Companies: An Encyclopedia (1891-1943)

Alan Sutton, *Columbia Master Recording Dates The Electrical Era*, p7

Alan Sutton, *Recording The Twenties*, p 167, 200

Joseph Csida & June Bundy Csida, American Entertainment

David Jansen & Gordon Jones, *That American Rag*

Frank Buxton & Bill Owens, The Big Broadcast: 1920-1950

Jean-Pierre Hombach, Frank Sinatra, p 44

Jean Pierre Hombach, 50 Cent, p 158

Frank Hoffman, *Encyclopedia Of Recorded Sound*, p 872

William H. Young, *Music Of The Great Depression*, p 6

Gary Marmorstein, *The Label: The Story Of Columbia Records.* p 57

Joseph Lanza, Russ Columbo And The Crooner Mystic, p 57

Sean Wilentz, 360 Sound: The Columbia Records Story, p 58, 59, 75, 94

Allison McCracken, Real Men Don't Sing: Crooning In American Culture, 2015

Variety, Disk Review, 9-9-1925, p 39.

Russell Sanjek, *American Popular Music And Its Business: The First 400 Years, Vol III*, 1988 August 2-8, 1931 edition of *Broadcast Weekly*.

The New York Public Library's Music Division has a folder of Art Gillham clippings.

www.worldcat.org - search for Art Gillham

Recordings available

www.archive.org - search audio for Art Gillham. Put "Art Gillham" in quotation marks. Complete collection of recordings and piano rolls. Free downloads in mp3 format

Amazon.com has some recordings available

Compact Disks

There are few compact disks that contain Art's recordings:

Black and White Piano, Vol 3 1897-1929

Benny Goodman On The Side

Art Gillham #1 1924-1927

Art Gillham #2 1927-1931

First Crooners #1 The Twenties

Here Come The Boys 1925-1932